COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
***DRAFT* PERMIT** April 30, 2019
TO WITHDRAW GROUNDWATER IN THE EASTERN SHORE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA

Permit Number: GW0076700
Effective Date: Xxxxxxx XX, 2019
Expiration Date: Xxxxxxx XX, 2034

Pursuant to Section 62.1-256 of the Ground Water Management Act of 1992 (Chapter 25, Title 62.1 of the Code of Virginia) and the Groundwater Withdrawal Regulations (Regulations) (9VAC25-610-10 *et seq*.), the State Water Control Board (Board) hereby authorizes the Permittee to withdraw and use groundwater in accordance with this permit.

Permittee Tri Minh Tran

Facility Excel Farm

Facility Address 25495 Saxis Road
Oak Hall, VA 23416

The Permittee's authorized groundwater withdrawal shall not exceed:

3,700,000 gallons per year,
900,000 gallons per month,

The permitted withdrawal will be used to provide an agricultural water supply. Other uses are not authorized by this permit.

The Permittee shall comply with all conditions and requirements of the permit.

By direction of the State Water Control Board, this Permit is granted by:

Signed_____ Date _____

Director, Office of Water Supply

This permit is based on the Permittee's application submitted on October 1, 2018, and subsequently amended to include supplemental information provided by the Permittee. The following are conditions that govern the system set-up and operation, monitoring, reporting, and recordkeeping pertinent to the Regulations.

Part I
Operating Conditions

A. Authorized Withdrawal

1. The withdrawal of groundwater shall be limited to the following wells identified in the table below. Withdrawals from wells not included in Table 1 are not authorized by this permit and are therefore prohibited. 9VAC25-610-140.A

Table 1

Owner Well Name	DEQ Well #	Well Depth (ft)	Screen Intervals	Aquifer*	Latitude	Longitude	Datum
Well 1	100-01593	To be Determined**	To be Determined**	Upper, Middle, or Lower Yorktown-Eastover	37° 55' 25.5"	75° 37' 21.34"	WGS84
Well 2	100-01594	To be Determined**	To be Determined**	Upper, Middle, or Lower Yorktown-Eastover	37° 55' 27.94"	75° 37' 20.45"	WGS84

*Aquifer in use was estimated based on the USGS Eastern Shore Hydrogeologic Framework and will be updated using site-specific geophysical data collected as required by this permit.
**No well construction information was located for this well. Well construction information will be collected using camera surveys as required by the permit.

2. Any actions that result in a change to the well operation, construction, or pump intake setting of wells included in this permit must be pre-approved by the Department of Environmental Quality (Department) in writing prior to implementing the change and a revised GW-2 Form must be submitted to the Department within 30 days after the physical construction of a well is altered or the pump intake setting has been changed. If changes are a result of an emergency, notify the Department within 5 days from the change. 9VAC25-610-140.C

B. Pump Intake Settings

1. The Permittee shall not place a pump or water intake device lower than the top of the uppermost confined aquifer that a well utilizes as a groundwater source or lower than the bottom of an unconfined aquifer that a well utilizes as a groundwater source in order to prevent dewatering of the aquifer, loss of inelastic storage, or damage to the aquifer from compaction. 9VAC25-610-140.A.6

2. Pump settings in individual wells are limited as follows. Any change in the pump setting must receive prior approval by the Department.

Owner Well Name	DEQ Well #	Max Pump Setting (feet below land surface)*
Well 1	100-01593	129
Well 2	100-01594	129

*Max pump settings were estimated based on the USGS Eastern Shore Hydrogeologic Framework. As no well construction information was available for the facility wells, the top of the Middle Yorktown-Eastover was used to estimate the max pump setting as the Upper Yorktown-Eastover is generally thin and less transmissive in this area. Following the collection of the geophysical log data required by this permit, updated site-specific maximum pump setting depths will be provided by the Department to replace these estimated limits.

C. Reporting

1. Water withdrawn from each well shall be recorded consistently at the end of each month and reported to the Office of Water Supply, in paper or electronic format, on a form provided by the Department by the tenth (10^{th}) day of each January, April, July and October for the respective previous calendar quarter. Records of water use shall be maintained by the Permittee in accordance with Part III.F, 1 through 5 of this permit. 9VAC25-610-140.A.9

2. The Permittee shall report any amount in excess of the permitted withdrawal limit by the fifth (5th) day of the month following the month when such a withdrawal occurred. Failure to report may result in compliance or enforcement activities. 9VAC25-610-140.C

3. The following is a summary of reporting requirements for specific facility wells:

Owner Well Name	DEQ Well #	Reporting Requirements
Well 1	100-01593	Water Use
Well 2	100-01594	Water Use

D. Water Conservation and Management Plan

1. The Water Conservation and Management Plan (WCMP) submitted in the application received October 3, 2018 and subsequently amended and then approved by the Department is incorporated by reference into this permit and shall have the same effect as any condition contained in this permit and may be enforced as such.

2. By the end of the first year of the permit cycle [*date*] the Permittee shall submit a detailed description of their leak detection and repair program activities and documentation to the Department that these activities have been conducted. This documentation shall include frequency of the activities completed and the findings and results of the activities during the first year of the permit term. 9VAC25-610-100.B.1.b,2.b,or 3.b

3. As soon as completed but not later than the end of the second year of the permit cycle [*date*], the Permittee shall submit to the Department results of a 12 month audit of the total amount of groundwater used in the distribution system and the separate amounts used for drinking and cooling. This audit report shall include the flock cycle start and end dates during the year, and any necessary changes to the leak detection and repair program or operations that affected water use. 9VAC25-610-100.B.1.b,2.b,or 3.b

4. A report on the plan's effectiveness in maintaining or reducing water use and a summary of proposed revisions to the WCMP to address any elements that can be improved based on operations to date shall be submitted by the end of years five [*date*] and ten [*date*] of the permit term. These reports shall include as appropriate: 9VAC25-610-140.C

    a. Any new water saving equipment installed or water saving processes adopted;
    b. A summary of the operation of the cooling system for the houses during the report period including what months the cooling system was operated;
    c. Evaluation of the leak detection and repair program with a summary of any significant leaks found and repaired; and
    d. A summary of the flock cycles and overall water use patterns for each year covered by the report.

5. If revisions or additions to the plan are necessary an updated WCMP shall be submitted to the Department for approval along with the report prior to implementation of the revised plan

6. Records of activities conducted pursuant to the WCMP are to be submitted to DEQ upon request.

E. Mitigation Plan

The Mitigation Plan approved on December 18, 2018 by the Department is incorporated by reference into this permit and shall have the same effect as any condition contained in this permit and may be enforced as such. 9VAC25-610-110.D.3.g

F. Well Tags

1. Each well that is included in this permit shall have affixed to the well casing, in a prominent place, a permanent well identification plate that records, at a minimum, the DEQ well identification number, the groundwater withdrawal permit number, the total depth of the well, and the screened intervals in the well. Such well identification plates shall be in a format specified by the Board and are available from the Department. 9VAC25-610-140.A.12

2. Well tags shall be affixed to the appropriate well casing within 30 days of receiving the tags from the Department. The accompanying well tag installation certification form shall be returned to the Department within 60 days of receipt of the tags. 9VAC25-610-140.C

Part II
Special Conditions

Pursuant to 9VAC25-610-140.B and C, the following Special Conditions apply to this permit in order to protect the public welfare, safety, and health or conserve, protect and help ensure the beneficial use of groundwater.

A. Geophysical Log Data Collection

By July 31, 2021, a complete suite of geophysical logs (Spontaneous Potential, Single Point Resistance, 16/64 Short and Long Normal, Natural Gamma at a scale of 20 ft per inch) shall be obtained from at

least one borehole at a location and depth approved by the Department during the coordination process. Given the unknown hydrogeology at the site and the known potential for significant horizontal variability, additional geophysical logs may be required as determined by the Department during the drilling work to assess the well field area. An electronic and hard copy of the geophysical logs shall be submitted to the Department within 30 days of collection to allow determination of the top and bottom of the aquifer in use. 9VAC25-610-140.C

At least two months prior to the scheduled geophysical logging, the Permittee shall notify the Department of the drilling timetable to receive any further guidance needed on performing the geophysical logging and to allow scheduling of Department staff to make a site visit during the drilling of the borehole and/or the geophysical logging. Geophysical log data collected without the oversight of the Department will not be accepted.

B. Pump Intake Determination and Reset

Within 90 days of notification of the maximum pump setting depth as determined by Department staff based on new geophysical log data obtained by the Permittee as required by the permit, the Permittee shall submit documentation from a certified well provider, or other source as accepted by the Department, that the pump intake for each production well is set above the setting stated in the notification.

C. Meter Installation Verification/Correction

If notified by DEQ through an inspection report that meters meeting the requirements set forth in Part III Condition I of this permit have not been correctly installed on each production well in such a manner as to record total withdrawals from the well including both cooling water and drinking water, the Permittee shall correct any identified meter issues within 60 days of notification.

D. Unknown Well Construction

By July 31, 2021, the Permittee shall perform a camera survey of Wells #1 and #2, DEQ#s 100-01593 and 100-01594, to determine the well depth, casing size(s) and type(s), and screen interval(s). This evaluation is also to include documentation of the pump intake depth and capacity. A video of the survey and a completed GW-2 form base on the camera survey results is to be submitted to the Department within 30 days of completion.

At least 30 days prior to the scheduled camera survey, the Permittee shall notify the Department of the survey schedule to receive any further guidance needed and to allow scheduling of Department staff to make a site visit during the camera survey. A camera survey with inconclusive/unclear data will not be accepted by the Department. Undocumented wells will be required to be abandoned in the next permit term.

Part III
General Conditions

A. Duty to Comply

The Permittee shall comply with all conditions of the permit. Nothing in this permit shall be construed to relieve the permit holder of the duty to comply with all applicable federal and state statutes, regulations and prohibitions. Any permit violation is a violation of the law and is grounds for enforcement action, permit termination, revocation, modification, or denial of a permit application. 9VAC25-610-130.A

B. Duty to Cease or Confine Activity

It shall not be a defense for a Permittee in an enforcement action that it would have been necessary to halt or reduce the activity for which a permit has been granted in order to maintain compliance with the conditions of the permit. 9VAC25-610-130.B

C. Duty to Mitigate

The Permittee shall take all reasonable steps to avoid all adverse impacts that may result from this withdrawal as defined in 9VAC25-610-10 and provide mitigation of the adverse impact when necessary as described in 9VAC25-610-110.D.3.g. 9VAC25-610-130.C

D. Inspection, Entry, and Information Requests

Upon presentation of credentials, the Permittee shall allow the Board, the Department, or any duly authorized agent of the Board, at reasonable times and under reasonable circumstances, to enter upon the Permittee's property, public or private, and have access to, inspect and copy any records that must be kept as part of the permit conditions, and to inspect any facilities, well(s), water supply system, operations, or practices (including sampling, monitoring and withdrawal) regulated or required under the permit. For the purpose of this section, the time for inspection shall be deemed reasonable during regular business hours. Nothing contained herein shall make an inspection time unreasonable during an emergency. 9VAC25-610-130.D

E. Duty to Provide Information

The Permittee shall furnish to the Board or Department, within a reasonable time, any information that the Board may request to determine whether cause exists for modifying or revoking, reissuing, or terminating the permit, or to determine compliance with the permit. The Permittee shall also furnish to the Board or Department, upon request, copies of records required to be kept by regulation or this permit. 9VAC25-610-130.E

F. Monitoring and Records Requirements

1. The Permittee shall maintain a copy of the permit on-site and/or shall make the permit available upon request. 9VAC25-610-130.E

2. Monitoring of parameters shall be conducted according to approved analytical methods as specified in the permit. 9VAC25-610-130.F.1

3. Samples and measurements taken for the purpose of monitoring shall be representative of the monitored activity. 9VAC25-610-130.F.2

4. The Permittee shall retain records of all monitoring information, including all calibration and maintenance records and all original strip chart or electronic recordings for continuous monitoring instrumentation, copies of all reports required by the permit, and records of all data used to complete the application for the permit, for a period of at least three years from the date of the expiration of a granted permit. This period may be extended by request of the Board at any time. 9VAC25-610-130.F.3

5. Records of monitoring information shall include as appropriate: 9VAC25-610-130.F.4

    a. the date, exact place and time of sampling or measurements;

    b. the name(s) of the individual(s) who performed the sampling or measurements;

    c. the date the analyses were performed;

    d. the name(s) of the individual(s) who performed the analyses;

    e. the analytical techniques or methods supporting the information, such as observations,

    f. readings, calculations and bench data used;

    g. the results of such analyses; and

    h. chain of custody documentation.

G. Environmental Laboratory Certification

The Permittee shall comply with the requirement for certification of laboratories conducting any tests, analyses, measurements, or monitoring required pursuant to the State Water Control Law (§ 62.1-44.2 et seq.), Environmental Laboratory Certification Program (§ 2.2-1105et seq.), Certification for Noncommercial Environmental Laboratories (1VAC30-45), and/or Accreditation for Commercial Environmental Laboratories (1VAC30-46), and

a. Ensure that all samples and measurements taken for the purpose of monitoring shall be representative of the monitored activity.

b. Conduct monitoring according to procedures approved under 40CFR Part 136 or alternative methods approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

c. Periodically calibrate and perform maintenance procedures on all monitoring and analytical instrumentation at intervals that will ensure accuracy of measurements. (1VAC30-45-20)

H. Future Permitting Actions

1. A permit may be modified or revoked as set forth in Part VI of the Regulations. 9VAC25-610-290 and 9VAC25-610-130.G

2. If a Permittee files a request for permit modification or revocation, or files a notification of planned changes, or anticipated noncompliance, the permit terms and conditions shall remain effective until the Board makes a final case decision. This provision shall not be used to extend the expiration date of the effective permit. 9VAC25-610-130.G

3. Permits may be modified or revoked upon the request of the Permittee, or upon Board initiative, to reflect the requirements of any changes in the statutes or regulations. 9VAC25-610-130.G

4. The Permittee shall schedule a meeting with the Department prior to submitting a new, expanded or modified permit application. 9VAC25-610-85

5. A new permit application shall be submitted 270 days prior to the expiration date of this permit, unless permission for a later date has been granted by the Board, to continue a withdrawal greater than or equal to 300,000 gallons in any month while an application for a renewal is being processed. 9VAC25-610-96

6. A new permit application shall be submitted 270 days prior to any proposed modification to this permit that will (i) result in an increase of withdrawal above permitted limits; or (ii) violate the terms and conditions of this permit. 9VAC25610-96

7. The applicant shall provide all information described in 9VAC25-610-94 for any reapplication. 9VAC25-610-96.C

8. The Permittee must notify the Department in writing of any changes to owner and facility contact information within 30 days of the change. 9VAC25-610-140.C

I. Metering and Equipment Requirements

1. Each well and/or impoundment or impoundment system shall have an in-line totalizing flow meter to read gallons, cubic feet, or cubic meters installed prior to beginning the permitted use. Meters shall produce volume determinations within plus or minus 10% of actual flows. 9VAC25-610-140.A.7.b

    a. A defective meter or other device must be repaired or replaced within 30 days.

    b. A defective meter is not grounds for not reporting withdrawals. During any period when a meter is defective, generally accepted engineering methods shall be used to estimate withdrawals. The period during which the meter was defective must be clearly identified in the groundwater withdrawal report required by Part I, Subsection D of this permit. An alternative method for determining flow may be approved by the Board on a case-by-case basis.

2. Each well shall be equipped in a manner such that water levels can be measured during pumping and non-pumping periods without dismantling any equipment. Any opening for tape measurement of

water levels shall have an inside diameter of at least 0.5 inches and be sealed by a removable plug or cap. The Permittee shall provide a tap for taking raw water samples from each permitted well. 9VAC25-610-140.A.7.e

J. Minor Modifications

1. A minor modification to this permit must be made to replace an existing well(s) or add an additional well(s) provided that the well(s) is screened in the same aquifer(s) as the existing well(s), and is in the near vicinity of the existing well(s), the total groundwater withdrawal does not increase, the area of impact does not increase, and the well has been approved by the Department prior to construction. 9VAC25-610-330.B.4 and 5

2. A minor modification to this permit must be made to combine withdrawals governed by multiple permits when the systems are physically connected as long as interconnection will not result in additional groundwater withdrawal and the area of impact will not increase. 9VAC25-610-330.B.6

3. Minor modifications to this permit must also be made to:

    a. Change an interim compliance date up to 120 days from the original compliance date, as long as the change does not interfere with the final compliance date. 9VAC25-610-330.B.7

    b. Allow for change in ownership when the Board determines no other change in the permit is necessary and the appropriate written agreements are provided in accordance with the transferability of permits and special exceptions. 9VAC25-610-320 and 9VAC25-610-330.B.8

    c. Revise a Water Conservation and Management Plan to update conservation measures being implemented by the Permittee that increase the amount of groundwater conserved. 9VAC25-610-330.B.9

K. Well Construction

At least 30 days prior to the scheduled construction of any well(s), the Permittee shall notify the Department of the construction timetable and receive prior approval of the well(s) location(s) and acquire the DEQ Well number. All wells shall be constructed in accordance with the following requirements.

1. A well site approval letter or well construction permit must be obtained from the Virginia Department of Health prior to construction of the well. 9VAC25-610-130.A

2. A complete suite of geophysical logs (Spontaneous Potential, Single Point Resistance, 16/64 Short and Long Normal, Natural Gamma) shall be completed for the well and submitted to the Department along with the corresponding completion report. 9VAC25-610-140.C

3. The Permittee shall evaluate the geophysical log and driller's log information to estimate the top of the target aquifer and; therefore, a depth below which the pump shall not be set. The Permittee's determination of the top of the target aquifer shall be submitted to the Department for review and approval, or approved on site by the Department's Groundwater Characterization staff, prior to

installation of any pump. 9VAC25-610-140.A.6

4. The Permittee shall install gravel packs and grout in a manner that prevents leakance between aquifers. Gravel pack shall be terminated close to the top of the well screen(s) and shall not extend above the top of the target aquifer. 9VAC25-610-140.C

5. A completed GW-2 Form and any additional water well construction documents shall be submitted to the Department within 30 days of the completion of any well and prior to the initiation of any withdrawal from the well. 9VAC25-610-140.C. The assigned DEQ Well number shall be included on all well documents. 9VAC25-610-140.C

6. In addition to the above requirements, construction of a Water Level Monitoring State Observation Well (SOW) requires:

    a. The Permittee shall coordinate activities with the Department's Groundwater Characterization Program (GWCP) to determine the appropriate observation well location and construction schedule, along with the needed screen interval(s), and other completion details following review of geophysical logging. 9VAC25-610-140.C

    b. Prior to preparation of bid documents for construction of the observation well, the Permittee shall notify the Department and shall include any GWCP requirements in the bid documents. At a minimum, the Department will require a pre-bid meeting with interested drilling contractors and a pre-construction meeting with the successful bidder. 9VAC25-610-140.C

    c. Instrumentation to meet the requirements for real-time data transmission consistent with the State Observation Well Network shall be purchased by the Permittee. The Permittee shall submit a purchase order based on the Department's equipment specifications for review and approval prior to purchase of the equipment. The Permittee shall not be required to install the equipment. 9VAC25-610-140.C

7. In addition to the above requirements, construction of a Chloride Monitoring SOW requires:

    a. The Permittee shall coordinate activities with the Department's Groundwater Characterization Program (GWCP) to determine the appropriate observation well location and construction schedule, along with the needed screen interval(s), and other completion details following review of geophysical logging. 9VAC25-610-140.C

    b. Prior to preparation of bid documents for construction of the observation well, the Permittee shall notify the Department and shall include any GWCP requirements in the bid documents. At a minimum, the Department will require a pre-bid meeting with interested drilling contractors and a pre-construction meeting with the successful bidder. 9VAC25-610-140.C

    c. Instrumentation to meet the requirements for real-time data transmission consistent with the State Observation Well Network shall be purchased by the Permittee. The Permittee shall submit a purchase order based on the Department's equipment specifications for review and approval prior to purchase of the equipment. The Permittee shall not be required to install the equipment. 9VAC25-610-140.C

d. Instrumentation to meet the requirements for continuous measurement of specific conductance from multiple levels within the well screen shall be purchased by the Permittee. The Permittee shall submit a purchase order based on the Department's equipment specifications for review and approval prior to purchase of the equipment. The Permittee shall not be required to install the equipment. 9VAC25-610-140.C

L. Permit Reopening

This permit may be reopened for the purpose of modifying the conditions of the permit as follows:

a. To meet new regulatory standards duly adopted by the Board. 9VAC25-610-140.A.11

b. When new information becomes available about the permitted withdrawal, or the impact of the withdrawal, which had not been available at permit issuance and would have justified the application of different conditions at the time of issuance. 9VAC25-610-310.B.1

c. When the reported withdrawal is less than 60% of the permitted withdrawal amount for a five year period. 9VAC25-610-310.B.2

d. If monitoring information indicates the potential for adverse impacts to groundwater quality or level due to this withdrawal. 9VAC25-610-140.C

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

PERMIT ISSUANCE FACT SHEET

Groundwater Withdrawal Permit Number: GW0076700
Application Date: September 30, 2018

The Department of Environmental Quality (Department or DEQ) has reviewed the application for a Groundwater Withdrawal Permit. Based on the information provided in the application and subsequent revisions, DEQ has determined that there is a reasonable assurance that the activity authorized by the permit is a beneficial use as defined by the regulations. Groundwater impacts have been minimized to the maximum extent practicable. The following details the application review process and summarizes relevant information for developing the Permit and applicable conditions.

Permittee / Legal Responsible Party

Name & Address:	Tri Minh Tran
	14400 Virginia Chase Ct.
	Centerville, VA 20120
Phone:	(703) 803-9432

Facility Name and Address

Name & Address:	Excel Farm
	25495 Saxis Road
	Oak Hall, VA 23416
Phone:	(703) 803-9432

Contact Information:

Name:	Brian Lee, Operations Manager
E-mail:	excelblee@yahoo.com
Phone:	(703) 803-9432

Proposed Beneficial Use:

The proposed use for this withdrawal is for agriculture. Withdrawals will supply a poultry growing operation with water for cooling of chicken houses as well as for direct consumption by poultry.

Processing Dates

Processing Action	Date Occurred/Received
Pre-Application Meeting:	May 23, 2018
Application Received:	October 3, 2018
Permit Fee Deposited by Accounting:	Not Applicable
Notice of Deficiency Sent	Not Applicable
Response to Notice of Deficiency Received:	Not Applicable
Request for Additional Information Sent:	October 1, 2018
Response to Request for Additional Information Received:	October 1, 2018
Local Government Ordinance Form Received:	April 1, 2019
Application Complete:	October 1, 2018
Submit Request for Technical Evaluation:	December 18, 2018
Technical Evaluation Received:	February 14, 2019
Draft Permit Package Sent:	April 30, 2019
Submit Draft Permit for Public Notice:	TBD
Public Notice Published:	TBD
End of 30-Day Public Comment Period:	TBD
Response to Public comment:	TBD
Public Meeting or Hearing:	TBD

Application

Application Information

Excel Farm is a poultry farm owned by Tri Minh Tran and located in Accomack County. Excel Farm has four poultry houses and two production wells. All four houses are 42 ft wide by 500 ft long in size. The farm produces broilers. The facility is an older farm that has been in operation since 2002 since all four houses are visible in 2002 Accomack County website aerial photos. Additional information on how water is used at the farm is discussed in the basis of need section of the fact sheet.

Location of Facility/Withdrawal:

Water Supply Planning Unit: Accomack & Northampton

County: Accomack County

GWMA/Aquifer: Eastern Shore/ Upper, Middle, or Lower Yorktown

Conjunctive Use Source: This system uses no surface water and is therefore not a conjunctive use system.

Withdrawal Use, Current Need, and Projected Demand:

Basis of Need:
Poultry farms use groundwater to provide drinking water to the birds as well as to supply water to either misting systems or evaporative cooling pads designed to regulate temperatures in the house and keep the birds cool. Cooling is primarily required in summer.

Water use for poultry farms varies seasonally as well as in response to the poultry life cycle. Generally during winter, fall, and spring, facility withdrawals rise and fall in a predictable pattern every 50-60 days, or the length of time it takes to raise a flock, with increased usage primarily resulting from increased water consumption as the birds gain weight. This water use pattern starts with low water consumption volumes for chick development and peaks in the last 20-30 days as growers seek to maximize adult weight gains. Typically, farms raise around five flocks per year with this cycle repeating each time. During the summer, withdrawal volumes increase due to additional water usage for flock cooling purposes.

Water volumes used for consumption are controlled by a computer system that provides water to the drinker system, which provides access to water for the birds but limits spillage or excess moisture from entering the house. Avoiding excess moisture is critical to bird health and as a result careful conservation of water is already a key tenet of management in a broiler house. The computer tracks water supplied to the drinking system and records the volume. This data was maintained by some farms but in many cases was not recorded long-term. Where available, data from the computer is discussed in the historic withdrawals section of the factsheet.

The cooling systems are operated based on temperature and humidity and while usage is typically restricted to summers, operation of the cooling systems tends to vary between farms. Historically, water supplied to the cooling systems was not metered so very limited data is available on usage.

Water Demand Projection: Water demands are based on estimated drinking and cooling water amounts needed to supply all the system houses. Proposed withdrawal limits were calculated based on the total of both consumption (drinking water) and cooling. Water use for consumption was calculated based on farm data for each house for an 11 month period. This data was divided by the eleven months then multiplied by 12 to derive an annual amount for drinking of 2,050,647 g/y rounded to 2,100,000 g/y. The maximum monthly amount for drinking was obtained from the highest monthly data of 291,000 g.

As no data on volumes used for cooling was available from farms operating on the shore, a procedure for estimating water use for cooling was developed for use based on discussions with industry stakeholders, individual farmers, and a review of available literature. House size and cooling fan capacity were identified as the major variables determining water use for cooling poultry houses. A formula based on 1.6 gallons per year per cubic foot per minute (cfm) of cooling fan capacity was determined to be representative for the Delmarva area poultry industry. The major variable for cooling fan capacity is the width of the house as that provides for the number and size of cooling fans that can be installed. The combined total width of the houses for the facility was used as the basis to estimate cooling water use with a result of 1,532,160 g/y. The requested annual amount of 3,632,160 g/y was rounded to 3,700,000 g/y. The monthly amount for cooling was derived by assuming the total annual amount would be used within a 3 month period (510,720 g for cooling) with a total monthly request of 801,700 g

rounded to 900,000 g. The water use calculations are attached to the fact sheet. The permit requires metering of the wells to record total water use and actual amounts used for cooling will be collected.

Any small amount of water used for general farm operation including washing equipment, cleaning houses between flocks, etc. would also be recorded through the meters.

Water demands are not expected to change as the amount requested represents the maximum capacity of the farm and no additional houses are considered in this permit. Therefore, no projections are included for this facility.

Withdrawal Volumes Requested: The applicant requested the following withdrawal volumes based upon the projected groundwater demand.

Period of Withdrawal	Actual Volume (gal.)	Volume in MGD
Maximum Monthly:	900,000	0.03
Maximum Annual:	3,700,000	0.01

DEQ Evaluation

Historic Withdrawals: Little record of historic withdrawals was available for this facility as the withdrawal data was not recorded or maintained. (Refer to the Water Demand Projection section above for more information on how water use was estimated.) Metered data was provided for October, November, and December of 2018 with 206,120 g and 207,050 g used in October and December and 42,520 g reported for November.

Analysis of Alternative Water Supplies: The Eastern Shore of Virginia is an area primarily served by groundwater with the majority of withdrawals coming from the three confined Yorktown-Eastover (Upper/Middle/Lower) aquifers. There is limited surface water availability with the majority of streams being too small to supply sufficient water for most purposes, larger water bodies are typically tidally influenced, and water quality concerns have limited the development of these sources. Withdrawals from the surficial aquifer, or water table, are one viable alternative to withdrawals from the confined system. While withdrawals from the surficial aquifer can present additional water quality challenges in the form of iron forming bacteria and increased vulnerability to surface contaminants, it may be viable in some locations where capacity and quality are sufficient. In general, drinking water for poultry must be of higher quality than the cooling water. In most cases, site-specific data will be necessary to determine the viability of the surficial aquifer and to determine what portions of the use it can supply.

Public Water Supply: The proposed withdrawal does not contain a public water supply component.

Water Supply Plan Review: A Water Supply Planner coordination request was sent on September 10, 2018 and a response was received on January 9, 2019. The response noted several key items.

The Accomack County Regional Water Supply Plan (Plan) includes irrigating agricultural facilities using both groundwater and surface water, with current permitted amounts sufficient to meet demands into 2040. The plan, however, does not include existing poultry farms in their assessments. While the seafood industry could also show future growth in the region, Section 4.0 of the ANPDC Groundwater Management Plan details industrial water for seafood and poultry processing, noting over 90% of industrial groundwater usage is related to poultry processing. WSP Staff note existing water quality concerns for surface waters and no significant water surpluses or sources in Accomack County to serve as alternative sources. Additionally, WSP staff reviewed the current alternatives under consideration, such as water table wells, and noted that the ability of the National Resources Conservation Service's (NRCS) Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) program to fund such efforts is currently unknown. The current lack of inclusion of poultry in the region's plan, existing water quality and alternative source concerns, and the unknown status of funding for alternative development underlines potential regional resource concerns to be addressed in future planning efforts.

DEQ Recommended Withdrawal Limits: The recommended withdrawal limits are based on the total of both consumption (drinking water) and cooling. Water use for consumption was evaluated based on the total from eleven months of meter data from the farm averaged out to determine the estimated 12-month amount. DEQ staff evaluated the requested water use based on data from a previous flock and determined the values provided a reasonable basis for estimating annual and monthly withdrawal amounts and were in-keeping with data estimated for other farms with similar sized houses. The withdrawal amounts reported for the fourth quarter of 2018 are also in a range fitting with the requested amount leaving room for the expected increase in use during the summer months.

DEQ staff evaluated the volumes requested for cooling and determined they were accurately calculated using the procedure discussed in more detail above. Given the lack of data available for evaluating poultry water use, DEQ believes the methods employed are conservative enough to provide sufficient water for the farm to continue operation while still providing a reasonable limit for the permits. It is expected that as more metered data becomes available, withdrawal limits may be reduced in cases where actual water use is significantly lower than the permit limits. This may be the case here since the cooling water is reported to be included in the meter values. However, review of summer data is needed to evaluate the water needs of this farm and others to obtain a better understanding of the true water needs.

Withdrawal limits were rounded to nearest hundred thousand in accordance with DEQ's April 6, 2015 "Rounding Memo". DEQ recommends the following withdrawal volumes based upon evaluation of the groundwater withdrawal permit application.

Period of Withdrawal	Actual Volume (gal.)	Volume in MGD
Maximum Monthly:	900,000	0.03
Maximum Annual:	3,700,000	0.01

Technical Evaluation:

Aquaveo, LLC performed a technical evaluation of the application for the Department based on

the VAHydroGW-ES model. As an aquifer pump test was not performed, the properties from the VAHydroGW-ES model were used to simulate the potential drawdown resulting from the proposed withdrawal. As the well construction is not yet known, the withdrawal was modeled as obtained 100% from each (Upper, Middle, and Lower) Yorktown-Eastover aquifer in separate simulations. The model uses a base simulation which includes all existing permits (except the applicant wells) operating at their 2017 maximum annual withdrawal limit allowed under the terms of their permit for all Ground Water Management Area (GWMA) permit holders. This base simulation is then executed for 50 years. A second 50-year simulation was then conducted using the VAHydroGW-ES model for the Upper and Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers and a 50 year simulation using the 2D Hantush Jacob analytical simulation for the Middle Yorktown-Eastover aquifer with the applicant's proposed withdrawals added to the base simulation to simulate drawdown resulting from the applicant's wells using the proposed withdrawal volumes. (The VAHydroGW-ES model hydraulic conductivity for the Middle aquifer in the farm vicinity is much higher than that of the Upper and Lower aquifers and as a result the VAHydroGW-ES model did not simulate enough drawdown in the model cell containing the applicant wells to create and AOI.) The objectives of this evaluation were to determine the areas of any aquifers that will experience at least one foot of water level decline due to the proposed withdrawal (the Area of Impact or AOI), to determine the potential for the proposed withdrawal to cause salt-water intrusion, and to determine if the proposed withdrawal meets the 80% drawdown criteria. A summary of the results of the evaluation are provided below and the full technical evaluation is attached to this fact sheet as Attachment 2.

Aquaveo, LLC reviewed and compared simulated 2017 water levels from the reported use to USGS measured water levels in observation wells closest to the applicant's withdrawal for the same year for the Upper, Middle, and Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers. Comparing the VAHydroGW-ES 2017 Historic Use Water Level with the USGS Network Well 2017 Water Level provides a method for judging the accuracy of the VAHydroGW-ES model. They noted that the water levels obtained from the regional observation networks for the Upper, Middle, and Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers are predicted closely by the model in five of the wells, while the VAHydroGW-ES model overestimates water levels in one well by around 4 ft in the Upper and underestimated water levels in one well each by up to 6 ft in both the Middle and Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers. Aquaveo also noted that the observed water levels in all three aquifers exhibit yearly fluctuations in water levels of approximately 2 to 4ft. Water levels simulated by the VAHydroGW-ES do not fluctuate in the same manner because the pumping and recharge simulated in the model for any given year are averaged over the year and entered in the model as the average value for the year. Aquaveo concluded that while there are some variations between the observed and simulated water levels, the fluctuations and general patterns observed in the USGS wells are simulated by the VAHydroGW-ES model and the water levels from the two sources are in general agreement. Differences between observed and simulated water levels will be noted and addressed during the next calibration of the VAHydroGW-ES model.

The potential for adverse changes to water quality due to increases salinity resulting from the proposed withdrawal was evaluated using transient, density-dependent, SEAWAT simulations using the VAHydroGW-ES. The results indicated that no model cells simulate an increase in chloride concentration greater than 10 mg/L in the Upper Yorktown-Eastover aquifer, and 20 mg/l in both the Middle and Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers due to the proposed withdrawal. Therefore, the VAHydroGW-ES model results do not indicate the potential for reduced water quality.

The results of the VAHydroGW-ES simulations predict areas of impact due to the proposed withdrawal in the Upper, Middle, and Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers. The Area of Impact (AOI), or the area in which the withdrawal is expected to result in a drawdown of at least 1 foot, extend a maximum distance of approximately 0.2 miles, 510 ft, and 0.3 miles from the production center in the Upper, Middle, and Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers respectively. As the AOIs extend beyond the property line, a mitigation plan was required to be incorporated into the permit. The modeled area of impact determines the area for which the facility must mitigate any impacts according to the mitigation plan incorporated into this permit.

With the inclusion of the proposed withdrawal, the lowest model simulated water levels for the three model simulations were -2.9, -2.1, and -6.7 ft. mls for the Upper, Middle, and Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers, respectively. The 80% drawdown criterion allows the potentiometric water level (based on the critical surface elevation calculated from the VAHydroGW-ES data) to be reduced to -55.0, -99.0, and -156.6 feet msl for the Upper, Middle, and Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers, respectively. Therefore, the water levels in the VAHydroGW-ES cell containing the applicant wells for each confined aquifer are not simulated to fall below the critical surface. Additionally, no new VAHydroGW-ES cells are simulated to have water levels fall below the critical surface. Therefore, this withdrawal is within the limits set by the 80% drawdown criterion.

Aquaveo, LLC concluded that the proposed withdrawals meet technical criteria for permit issuance. Maps of the AOIs are included in the attached Mitigation Plan.

Part I
Operating Conditions

Authorized Withdrawals:

Owner Well Name	DEQ Well #	Aquifer*	Type	Max Pump Setting (ft. bls)*
Well 1	100-01593	Upper, Middle, or Lower Yorktown-Eastover	Production	129
Well 2	100-01594	Upper, Middle, or Lower Yorktown-Eastover	Production	129

* Max pump settings were estimated based on the USGS Eastern Shore Hydrogeologic Framework. As no well construction information was available for the facility wells, the top of the Middle Yorktown-Eastover was used to estimate the max pump setting as the Upper Yorktown-Eastover is generally thin and less transmissive in this area. Following the collection of the geophysical log data required by this permit, updated site-specific maximum pump setting depths will be provided by the Department to replace these estimated limits.

Additional Wells:

There are no Observation, Abandoned, or Out of Service Wells known to be associated with the farm system.

Pump Intake Settings:
The pump intake depths for the two wells are not known. In addition, no geophysical log data was available for this site and therefore aquifer elevation for the tops of the aquifer(s) in use were estimated using the USGS Eastern Shore Hydrogeologic Framework. Once geophysical log data is obtained in compliance with the permit, DEQ geologists will determine the top of the aquifer in use, which will be the pump intake limit above which the pumps must be set. The permittee will have 90 days to ensure all pumps meet the intake limits once notified of the limits by DEQ.

Withdrawal Reporting:

Groundwater withdrawals are to be recorded monthly and reported quarterly.

Water Conservation and Management Plan:

A Water Conservation and Management Plan (WCMP) meeting the requirements of 9VAC25-610-100.B was submitted and reviewed as part of the application process. The accepted Plan is to be followed by the permittee as an operational Plan for the facility/water system.

- A detailed description of the leak detection and repair program activities and documentation to the Department that these activities have been conducted is due by the end of the first year of the permit term.
- A result of a 12 month audit of the total amount of groundwater used in the distribution system and the amounts for drinking and cooling water, documentation of the flock cycle start and end dates, and any necessary changes to the operation affecting water use is due by the end of the second year of the permit term.
- A report on the plan's effectiveness in maintaining or reducing water use amounts needed, including revisions to those elements of the WCMP that can be improved and addition of other elements found to be effective based on operations to date shall be submitted by the end of years five [*date*] and ten [*date*] of the permit term.

Mitigation Plan:

The predicted AOI resulting from the Technical Evaluation extends beyond the property boundaries in the Upper, Middle, and Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers. Given this prediction, a Mitigation Plan to address potential claims from existing well owners within the predicted area of impact is included in the permit by reference.

Well Tags:

Well tags will be transmitted with the final permit.

Part II
Special Conditions

Geophysical Log Data Collection: Geophysical log information is needed to evaluate the top of the aquifer in use and the regulatory permitted pump intake limit, and to determine whether the current pump

settings meet regulatory limitations. The Department requires collection of a geophysical log for each new well to be included in a Groundwater Withdrawal Permit. Given the large number of wells associated with poultry facilities, the Department agreed to work with applicants that had constructed wells prior to application to allow for a reduced number of geophysical logs required to represent the wells keeping in mind the need to evaluate lateral variation in the hydrogeology. The Permittee must contact DEQ at least two months prior to scheduling the geophysical logs to allow for Department scheduling.

The collection of geophysical log data requires a borehole to be drilled at least to the depth of the deepest facility well, or an alternative depth at the discretion of the Department, and the logging equipment run down the full depth of the hole. Geophysical logging is to include 16"/64" Normal, Single Point, Self-Potential, and Natural Gamma at a scale of 20 feet per inch. Collection of a full suite of geophysical logs and a drillers log is required by July 31, 2021 at one location with the location and depth approved by DEQ. Additional geophysical log locations may be required by Department staff as warranted depending on site hydrogeology to evaluate lateral variation in the aquifer top elevations. These logs will be used to represent the remaining facility wells. Department staff must be present for the geophysical logging to evaluate the log and well cuttings.

Pump Intake Determination and Reset: Within 90 days of notification of pump intake limits by the Department based on the geophysical data, the permittee shall submit documentation from a certified well provider, or other source as accepted by the Department, that the pump intake for each production well is set above the setting stated in the notification. The Permittee is to notify the Department of the work schedule.

Meter Installation/Verification: The meters are reported to be positioned in-line to collect both drinking and cooling amounts for each house. Well #1 supplies water to Houses #1 and #2. Well #2 supplies water for Houses #3 and #4. In cases where meters are found to be incorrectly installed or otherwise failing to capture the total water use of each well, DEQ will notify the permittee of such via an inspection report and the permittee shall correct any meter issues within 60 days.

Unknown Well Construction: Well Construction information was not available for either of the two production wells. A camera survey will be required for both production wells to determine well construction information and document the pump intake depth by July 31, 2021. DEQ shall be notified at least two weeks prior to any camera survey being conducted to allow Department staff to be present during the camera survey. A video recording of the camera survey is required for each surveyed well. Surveys where the well and screen depths, and the pump intake depth cannot be confidently determined will not be accepted by the Department.

Part III
General Conditions

General Conditions are applied to all Groundwater Withdrawal Permits, as stated in the Groundwater Withdrawal Regulations, 9VAC25-610-10 *et seq.*

Public Comment

The following sections will be completed after close of the public comment period.

Relevant Regulatory Agency Comments:

Summary of VDH Comments and Actions: This facility is not a public water supply so soliciting comments from VDH was not required.

Public Involvement during Application Process:

Local and Area wide Planning Requirements: The Accomack County Administrator indicated on March 18, 2019 that the facility's operations are consistent with all ordinances.

Public Comment/Meetings:

The public notice was published in xxxxxx on XXX. The public comment period ran from xxxxx to xxxxx

Changes in Permit Part II Due to Public Comments

Changes in Permit Part III Due to Public Comments

Staff Findings and Recommendations

Based on review of the permit application, staff provides the following findings.

- The proposed activity is consistent with the provisions of the Ground Water Management Act of 1992, and will protect other beneficial uses.
- The proposed permit addresses minimization of the amount of groundwater needed to provide the intended beneficial use.
- The effect of the impact will not cause or contribute to significant impairment of state waters.
- This permit includes a plan to mitigate adverse impacts on existing groundwater users.

Staff recommends Groundwater Withdrawal Permit Number GW0076700 be issued as proposed.

Attachments

1. **Technical Evaluation**
2. **Water Conservation Plan**

3. **Mitigation Plan**
4. **Water Use Calculation Worksheet**
5. **Public Comment Sheet**

Approved: _____
Director, Office of Water Supply

Date: _____

Introduction

Excel farm is a contract broiler farm that produces chicken for meat production. The facility consists of 4 chicken houses in the town of Oak Hall in Accomack County, Virginia. The Farm fully understands the need to be a good steward of the region's limited groundwater resources. As a result, key operational and design considerations were made to minimize the use and loss of water in Excel Water Supply System. This Water conservation and Management Plan is designed to optimize the Farm groundwater supply and consists of the following elements:

- Practicable Water Saving Equipment and Processes
- Water Loss Reduction Program
- Water Use Education Program
- Evaluation of Practicable Water Reuse Options
- Mandatory Water Use Reductions during Shortages.

Practicable Water Saving Equipment and Processes

The Farm requirements for water saving equipment and processes are implemented primarily through upgrading of equipment and maintenance of the most water efficient poultry houses. Drinker systems for all facilities are designed to provide clean, cool water with adequate flow rate fundamental to food poultry production. The use of closed nipple drinker systems ensures minimal waste of water and precludes the requirement for daily cleaning, which also conserves overall water usage. Flow rates are regularly checked and water consumption is monitored daily with any substantial change in water usage investigated. Evaporative Cooling Pads are utilized only at temperatures above 82° F and recirculate water until evaporated in order to conserve water while still meeting their designed purpose of providing temperature relief in hot conditions for efficient poultry production. The troughs are constructed of corrosion proof, ultraviolet stabilized PVC components to eliminate bacteria and algae growth. Management techniques that do not involve water consumption are also utilized in hot conditions such as walking the chicken and feed removal.
The Farm management diligently seeks to save water. The saving of water reduces the electrical cost for operating the well pumps, storage tanks, float switch and booster pumps. Management at the Farm regularly review water consumption electronically and visually alerts the f~er or staff of any below average or abnormal variations in the system. These variations that are monitored are air, moisture, temperature, and electric power. If the power goes down, there are stand-by diesel- driven generators to be used to provide electric to the houses and wells. Underground water leakage detection can only be determined by spikes in the water meter rates. Once a rate increase is noted or an alert goes out over the cell app, the owner and staff search to discover the location of the leak and repairs begin right away after it has been discovered.

Water Loss Reduction Program

If granted permit Excel farm will implement a water audit program within the first 24 months of the permit term. The audit and monthly inspections should eliminate leakage problems b early detection and will be conducted prior to and continue after the audit has been implemented. Annually a water loss audit will be conducted to determine the volume and nature be lost and unaccounted-for water within the water supply system. The purpose of the audit is to identify sources of demand that would normally escape detection by the metering system. Audits are conducted on a flock by flock basis once a flock is harvested. The facility is inspected for leaks and broken pipes which cannot be detected during the growth period of the chickens. Weekly inspections are made around the facilities pump houses and wells.

Leak Detection/monitor and Repair from Distribution System

This farm is monitored on a 24 hours basis by the owner/facilities' manager and one or two onsite workers. The houses' cooling and watering systems are inspected and repaired after each flock reaches maturity. All repairs are completed before the next flock comes in. Underground water leakage detection can only be determined by spikes in the water meter rates. Once a rate increase is noted or an alert goes out over the cell app, the owner and staff immediately search to discover the location of the leak and repairs right away after it has been discovered.

Leak Detection and Repair for Individual Chicken Houses

The Farm staff and management team will pay close attention to abnormal water consumption and if the house controller indicates a higher than normal water requirement, staff and management will come together to find and repair the leaks immediately after it has been discovered.

Water Use Education Program and Employee Training

All employees on the Excel are encouraged to conserve water and identify potential leaks when hired, during training, and the use of regular conversational reminders and may be required to attend any DPI classes offered.

EXCEL POULTRY FARM WCM PLAN

Specifically, employees will be trained in the ways in which they could use water conservatively.

Evaluation of Practicable Water Reuse Options:

This is an existing Farm and therefore have limited opportunities to explore water reuse projects for Poultry Farm. The likelihood of a reuse project occurring is remote at this time, given the current water-saving equipment in place and inability to practicably treat collected storm water to standards or quality that can utilized for flock consumption. The use of nearby surface water would not be sufficient for consumption purposes due to the water quality and the possibility of disease found in the local wildlife and waterfowl. The most notable being Bird flu, or Avian Influenza, which can be spread by waterfowl to flocks. These flocks are constantly and carefully immunized to prevent the spread of diseases and to promote healthy birds, and water quality plays a major role in flock health. Should a "'tater use arise that could utilize non-potable water, then a Water re-use evaluation will be conducted at that time.

Mandatory Water Use Reductions during Shortages

The facility will comply with all applicable sections of the Accomack County Drought Response apd Contingency Plan as identified in the Accomack County Water Supply Plan. This including voluntary water use restrictions in drought watch and mandatory water use restrictions in a drought emergency. Under mandatory water reductions during shortages, it is not feasible to reduce the amount of water which is needed to be provided in order to produce healthy chicken.

The only waste water produced by these facilities is the water used to wash off the cooling coils and cabling fans. During emergency water shortages, air may be used to dislodge dust particles from all this equipment.

MITIGATION PLAN

DEQ GROUNDWATER WITHDRAWAL PERMIT NO. GW0076700

OWNER NAME: Tri Minh Tran

FACILITY NAME: Excel Poultry Farm

LOCATION: Oak Hall, Accomack County, VA

INTRODUCTION

On *Oct. 1st, 2018*, *Tri Minh Tran* submitted a Groundwater Withdrawal Permit Application to the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to withdraw groundwater. Groundwater withdrawals associated with this permit will be utilized to supply a poultry farms operation.

The purpose of this Mitigation Plan is to provide existing groundwater users a method to resolve claims that may arise due to the impact of the withdrawal from Elite farm well field. Predicted drawdown of water levels due to the withdrawal(s) from the Yorktown-Eastover aquifer(s) in use by the facility wells are shown in the attached maps(s).

Modeled impacts, as shown on the attached maps, extend beyond the boundary of the Elite facility. Due to these findings, Tri Minh Tran recognizes that there will be a rebuttable presumption that water level declines that cause adverse impacts to existing groundwater users within the area of impact are due to this withdrawal. Claims may be made by groundwater users outside this area; however, there is a rebuttable presumption that Tri Minh Tran/Excel Farm has not caused the adverse impact. Tri Minh Tran proposes this plan to mitigate impacts to existing users and excludes impacts to wells constructed after the effective date of this permit.

CLAIMANT REQUIREMENTS

To initiate a claim, the claimant must provide written notification of the claim to the following address:

Contact Name	Tri Minh Tran
Title	Owner
Permittee Name	Excel farm
Address	25495 Saxis Rd.
City, State Zip Code	Oak Hall, VA 23416

The claim must include the following information: (a) a deed or other available evidence that the claimant is the owner of the well and the well was constructed and operated prior to the effective

date of the permit; (b) all available information related to well construction, water levels, historic yield, water quality, and the exact location of the well sufficient to allow Tri Minh Tran to locate the well on the claimant's property; (c) the reasons the claimant believes that the Excel Farm withdrawal has caused an adverse impact on the claimants well(s).

CLAIM RESOLUTION

Tri Minh Tran will review any claim within **five (5) business days**. If Tri Minh Tran determines that no rebuttal will be made and accepts the claim as valid, Tri Minh Tran will so notify the claimant and will implement mitigation within **thirty (30) business days**. If the claim is not accepted as valid, Tri Minh Tran will notify the claimant that (a) the claim is denied **or** (b) that additional documentation from the claimant is required in order to evaluate the claim. Within **fifteen (15) business days** of receiving additional documentation from the claimant, Tri Minh Tran will notify the claimant (a) that Tri Minh Tran agrees to mitigate adverse impacts or (b) the claim is denied. If the claim is denied, the claimant will be notified that the claimant may request the claim be evaluated by a three (3) member committee. This committee will consist of one (1) representative selected by Tri Minh Tran, one (1) representative selected by the claimant, and one (1) representative mutually agreed upon by the claimant and Tri Minh Tran.

Any claimant requesting that a claim be evaluated by the committee should provide the name and address of their representative to Tri Minh Tran. Within **five (5) business days** of receipt of such notification, Tri Minh Tran will notify the claimant and claimant's representative of the identity of Tri Minh Tran representative and instruct the representatives to select a third representative within **ten (10) business days**. Representatives should be a professional engineer or hydrogeologist with experience in the field of groundwater hydrology. Tri Minh Tran agrees to reimburse the members of the committee for reasonable time spent, at a rate prevailing in the area for experts in the above listed fields, and for direct costs incurred in administering the plan. The claimant may, at his or her option, choose to provide the reimbursement for the member of the committee selected by the claimant and up to half of the reimbursement for the mutual representative.

Within **ten (10) business days** of selection of the third representative, the committee will establish a **reasonable deadline** for submission of all documentation it needs to evaluate the claim. Both the claimant and Tri Minh Tran will abide by this deadline.

Within **fifteen (15) business days** of receipt of documentation, the committee will evaluate the claim and reach a decision by majority vote. The committee will notify the claimant regarding its decision to (a) deny or (b) approve the claim. If the claim is approved, Tri minh Tran will mitigate the adverse impacts within **thirty (30) business days** of making the decision or as soon as practical. If the claim is denied by the committee, Tri Minh Tran may seek reimbursement from the claimant for the claimant's committee representative and one half of the 3rd representative on the committee.

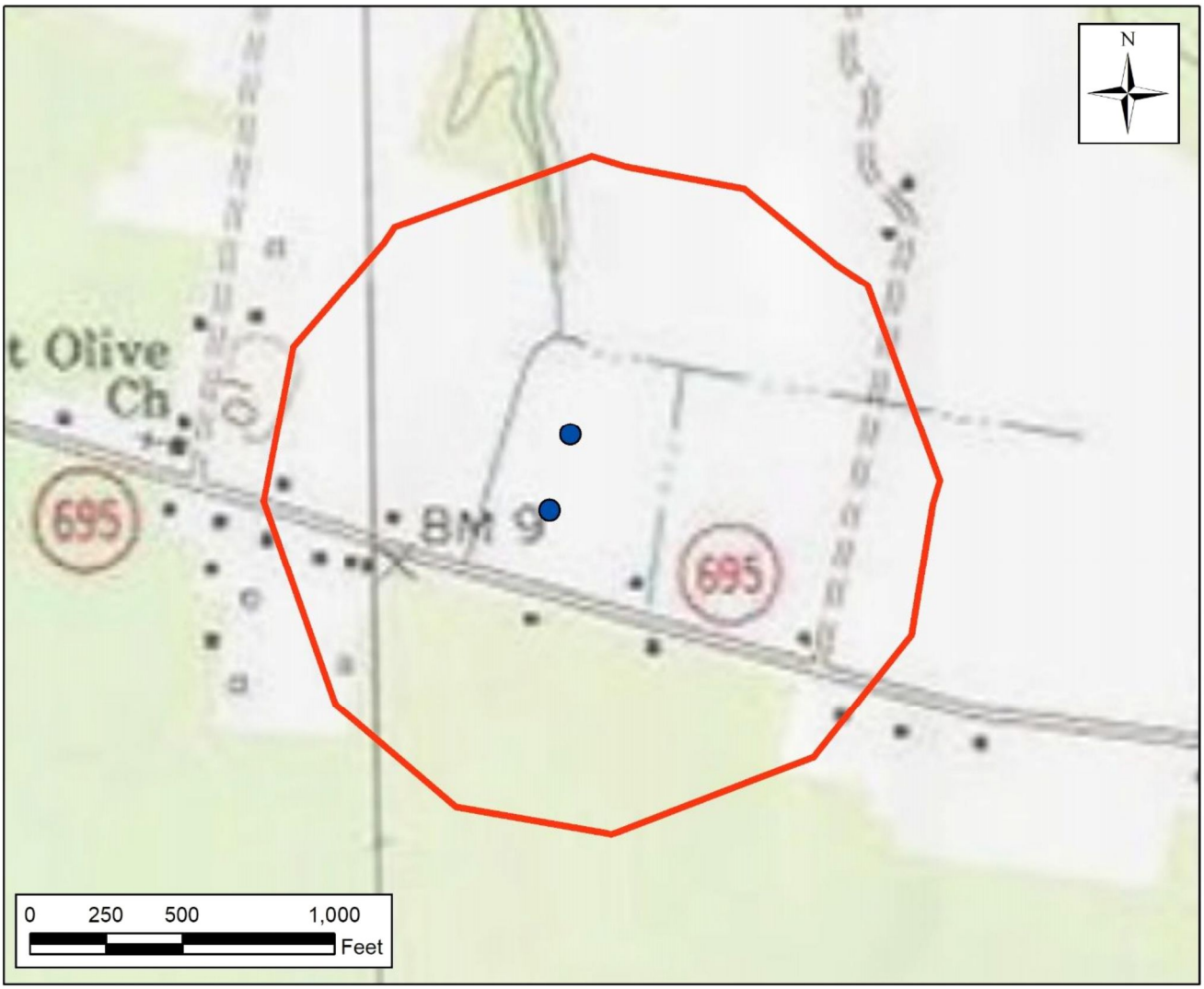
If a claimant within the indicated area of impact indicates that they are out of water, Tri Minh Tran will accept the responsibility of providing water for human consumptive needs within **seventy-two (72) hours** and to cover the claim review period. Tri Minh Tran reserves the right to recover the cost of such emergency supply if the claim is denied by Tri Minh Tran or found to be fraudulent or frivolous. If Tri Minh Tran denies a claim and the claimant elects to proceed with the three (3) member committee, Tri Minh Tran will continue the emergency water supply at the claimants request during the committee's deliberations, but reserves the right to recover the total costs of emergency water supply in the case that the committee upholds the denial of the claim. Similarly, Tri Minh Tran reserves the right to recover costs associated with the claim process if a claim is found to be fraudulent or frivolous.

If it is determined by the committee or shown to the committee's satisfaction that a well operating under a mitigation plan similar to Tri Minh Tran/Excel Plan other than those owned and operated by Tri Minh Tran has contributed to the claimed adverse impact, Tri Minh Tran share of the costs associated with mitigation will be allocated in proportion to its share of the impact. Such a determination shall be made by the committee after notification of the third party well owner, giving the third party well owner opportunity to participate in the proceedings of the committee.

PLAN ADMINISTRATION

Nothing in the Plan shall be construed to prevent the Department of Environmental Quality Staff from providing information needed for resolution of claims by the committee.

Excel Farm
Area of Impact - Upper Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer



Excel Farm Wells

Upper Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer Area of Impact

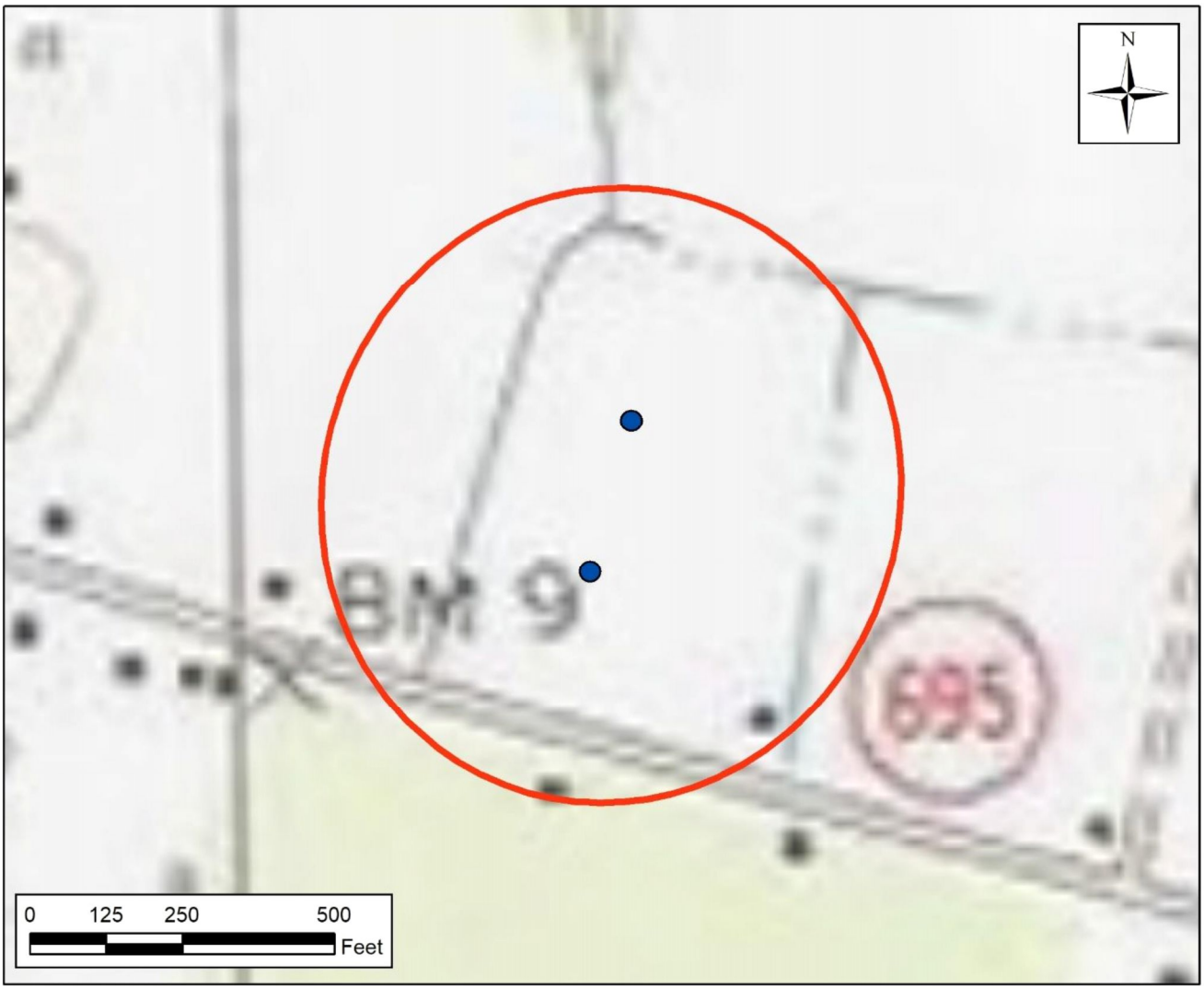
Simulated drawdown at or exceeding one foot in the Upper Yorktown-Eastover aquifer resulting from a 3,700,000 gallons per year (10,137 average gpd), 50 year, Upper Yorktown-Eastover aquifer withdrawal using the VAHydroGW-ES.

Maximum radius of one foot drawdown (Area of Influence) extends approximately 0.2 miles from the pumping center.

Technical evaluation performed by Aquaveo, LLC for the Virginia DEQ, Office of Water Supply
December 14, 2018

DEQ
VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Excel Farm
Area of Impact - Middle Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer



Excel Farm Wells

Middle Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer Area of Impact

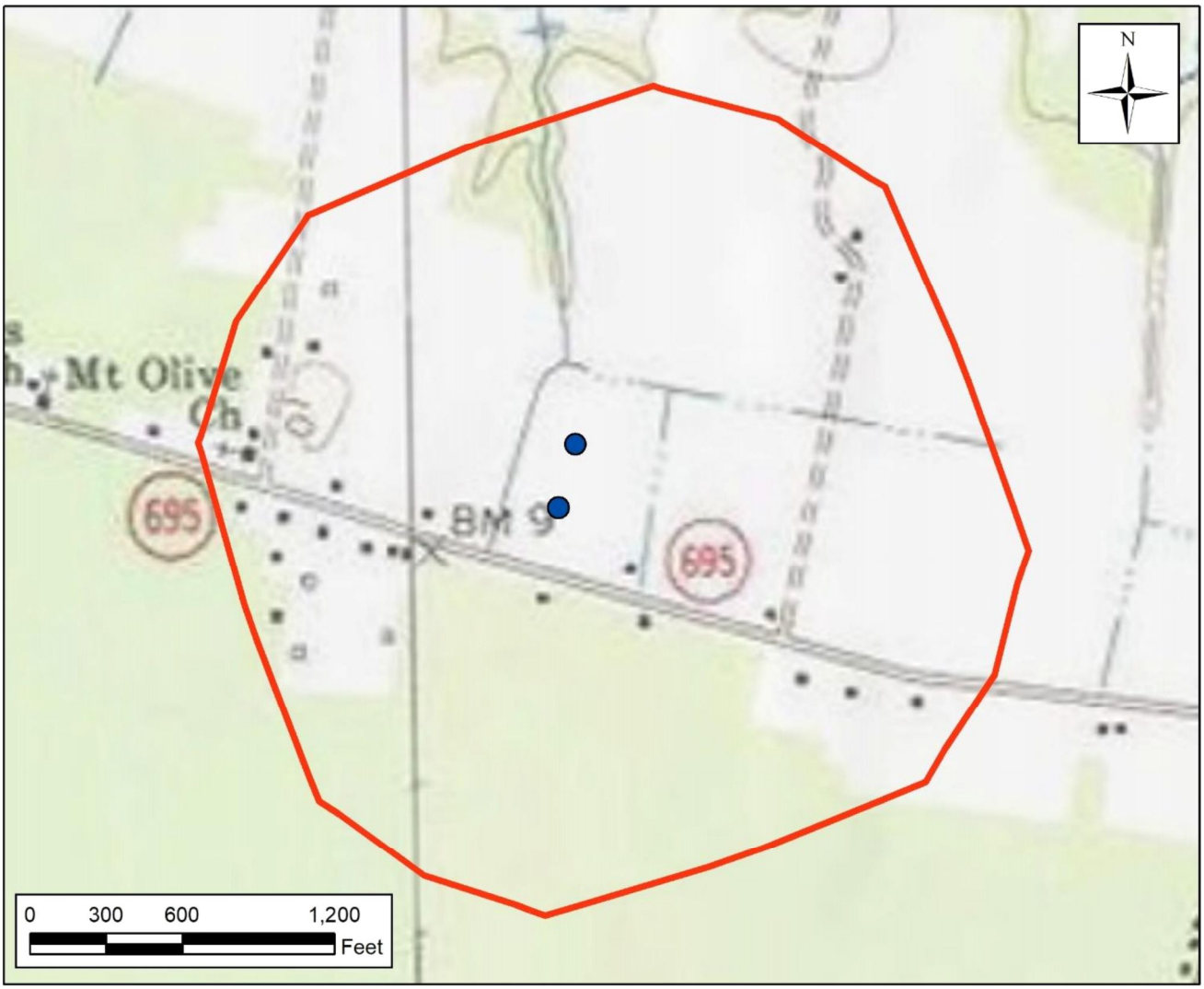
Simulated drawdown at or exceeding one foot in the Middle Yorktown-Eastover aquifer resulting from a 2-dmensional Hantush-Jacob (1955) analytical simulation of 3,700,000 gallons per year (10,137 average gpd) for 50 years from the Middle Yorktown-Eastover aquifer.

Maximum radius of one foot drawdown (Area of Impact) extends approximately 510 feet from the pumping center.

Technical evaluation performed by Aquaveo, LLC for the Virginia DEQ, Office of Water Supply
December 14, 2018

DEQ
VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Excel Farm
Area of Impact - Lower Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer



Excel Farm Wells

Lower Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer Area of Impact

Simulated drawdown at or exceeding one foot in the Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifer resulting from a 3,700,000 gallons per year (10,137 average gpd), 50 year, Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifer withdrawal using the VAHydroGW-ES.

Maximum radius of one foot drawdown (Area of Influence) extends approximately 0.3 miles from the pumping center.

Technical evaluation performed by Aquaveo, LLC for the Virginia DEQ, Office of Water Supply
December 14, 2018

DEQ
VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Farm Name: Excell Farm
County: Accomack
Permit Application Water Usage Calculations

Facility Information – Excell Farm

__4___ houses @ 42 ft width from submitted data average 513,662 g/y/house

_____ houses @ 50 ft width

_____ houses @ 60 ft width

_____ houses @ 66 ft width

_____ flocks per year

Consumption

Attach a farm-specific table of daily water consumption data for one (1) flock. See attached example table. This example includes water use for all houses for one flock. If meter data is for only one house and all houses are similar in size, the limits below will need to be multiplied by the number of houses.

Assuming that water consumption remains generally constant from flock to flock, the annual flock consumption may be estimated as follows:

$$Annual\ Flock\ Consumption = \_\_\_\_\_ \frac{gal}{flock} \times \_\_\_\_\_ \frac{flock}{yr} = \_\_\_\_\_ \frac{gal}{yr}$$

But here we don't have information per flock; we have monthly data covering 11 months. So for the annual amount, as we discussed, we'll use the beginning and ending meter data I found in our records that covered an 11 month span to estimate the annual consumption amount. As follows:

Total for house 1 = 359,990 gals for 11 months

Total for house 2 = 515,810 gals for 11 months

Total for house 3 = 497,760 gals for 11 months

Total for house 4 = 509,200 gals for 11 months Adding these gives an amount of 1,879,760 gal for 11 months

If you divide 1,879,790 gal by 11 months = 170,887 gal/month average, then multiplying by 12 months to obtain an annual amount = **2,050,647 g/y, rounded to 2,100,000 g/y for consumption**

The maximum monthly flock consumption may be estimated by adding up the daily water consumption for the last 31 days of the flock cycle (typically Days 20-50 of a 50 day flock cycle).

$$Max\ Monthly\ Flock\ Consumption = \sum_{Day\ 50}^{Day\ 20} Daily\ Water\ Consumption = \_\_\_\_\_\ \frac{gal}{mo}$$

We don't have the data in this manner so for the monthly amount limit using the highest reported month from the metered data of **291,000 g**

Cooling

Per Figure 12 of University of Georgia, Poultry Housing Tips (Evaporative Cooling Pad System Water Usage), Volume 29, Number 1, 2017, the evaporative cooling pad water usage per tunnel fan capacity is estimated as follows:

$$Annual\ Unit\ Cooling\ (Easton, MD) \approx \frac{160{,}000\ \frac{gal}{yr}}{100{,}000\ cfm} \approx \frac{1.6\ \frac{gal}{yr}}{1\ cfm}$$

Per Page 6 of Cobb-Vantress, Broiler Management Guide, November 15, 2013, the tunnel fan capacity (operating at an airspeed of 600 fpm) may be estimated as follows:

Tunnel Fan Capacity

$$= \left[228{,}000\ \frac{cfm}{40\ ft\ width} \times \_\_\_\_\_\ houses\ @\ 40\ ft\ width\right]$$

$$+ \left[285{,}000\ \frac{cfm}{50\ ft\ width} \times \_\_\_\_\_\ houses\ @\ 50\ ft\ width\right]$$

$$+ \left[342{,}000\ \frac{cfm}{60\ ft\ width} \times \_\_\_\_\_\ houses\ @\ 60\ ft\ width\right]$$

$$+ \left[376{,}200\ \frac{cfm}{66\ ft\ width} \times \_\_\_\_\_\ houses\ @\ 66\ ft\ width\right]$$

$$= \_\_\_\_\_\ cfm$$

The cfm for a 42 ft house was determined by adding 5,700 cfm for each foot added from the known 40 ft cfm = 239,400 cfm for a 42 ft house x 4 houses = 957,600 cfm total (228,000 cfm/40=5,700 cfm)

Given the annual unit cooling and tunnel fan capacity, the annual cooling may be estimated as follows:

$$Annual\ Cooling = \_957{,}600\_\_\ cfm \times \frac{1.6\ \frac{gal}{yr}}{1\ cfm} = \mathbf{\_1{,}532{,}160\_}\ \frac{\boldsymbol{gal}}{\boldsymbol{yr}}$$

Requested Withdrawal Amounts

The total annual withdrawal amount may be estimated by adding the annual flock consumption and the annual cooling amounts.

$$Annual\ Amount = \_2{,}050{,}647\_\ \frac{gal}{yr} + \_1{,}532{,}160\_\frac{gal}{yr} = \_3{,}632{,}160\_\ \frac{gal}{yr}$$

Rounded to **3,700,000 gal/year**

The total monthly withdrawal amount may be estimated by adding the maximum monthly flock consumption amount and one-third of the annual cooling amount (annual cooling divided by 3).

$$Monthly\ Amount = \_291{,}000\_\frac{gal}{mo} + \left[\frac{1{,}532{,}160\ \frac{gal}{yr}}{3}\right] = \_801{,}700\_\ \frac{gal}{mo}$$

Rounded to **900,000 g/month**

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

TECHNICAL EVALUATION FOR PROPOSED GROUNDWATER WITHDRAWAL

Date: December 14, 2018

Application /Permit Number: GW0076700

Owner / Applicant Name: Tri Minh Tran

Facility / System Name: Excel Farm

Facility Type: Agriculture – Poultry Farm

Facility / System Location: Accomack County

The Commonwealth of Virginia's Groundwater Withdrawal Regulations (9VAC25-610-110(D) state that, for a permit to be issued for a new withdrawal, to expand an existing withdrawal, or reapply for a current withdrawal, a technical evaluation shall be conducted. This report documents the results of the technical evaluation conducted to meet the requirements for the issuance of a permit to withdrawal groundwater within a Groundwater Management Area as defined in (9VAC25-600-10 et seq.).

This evaluation determines the:

(1) The Area of Impact (AOI): The AOI for an aquifer is the areal extent of each aquifer where one foot or more of drawdown is predicted to occur as a result of the proposed withdrawal.
(2) Water Quality: The potential for the proposed withdrawal to cause salt water intrusion into any portions of any aquifers or the movement of waters of lower quality to areas where such movement would result in adverse impacts on existing groundwater users or the groundwater resource as per (9VAC25-610-110(D)(2), and
(3) The Eighty Percent Drawdown (80% Drawdown): The proposed withdrawal in combination with all existing lawful withdrawals will not lower water levels, in any confined aquifer that the withdrawal impacts, below a point that represents 80% of the distance between the land surface and the top of the aquifer at the points where the one-foot drawdown contour is predicted for the proposed withdrawal as per 9VAC25-610-110(D)(3)(h).

Summary of Requested Withdrawal:

General:

In response to the Department of Environmental Quality's (DEQ) Compliance Assistance Framework initiative, a cohort of poultry farms in Accomack County were identified as potentially requiring a groundwater withdrawal permit (GWWP). The farms primarily grow broilers which are processed by several poultry integrators located in the area. These farms use groundwater to provide drinking water to the birds as well as to supply water to either misting systems or evaporative cooling pads which cool the birds. Cooling is primarily required in summer. Most wells associated with poultry farms in Accomack County are screened in either the upper, middle, or lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers. The use of the Columbia (water-table) aquifer is being investigated by the industry and this aquifer may be used in the future to augment withdrawals from confined aquifers where possible.

Water use for poultry farms varies seasonally as well as in response to the poultry life cycle. Generally during winter, fall, and spring, facility withdrawals rise and fall in a fairly predictable pattern every 50-60 days, with usage primarily resulting from water consumption. This pattern starts with low water

consumption volumes for chick development and maxes out in the last 20-30 days as breeders seek to maximize adult weight gains. Typically, farms raise around five flocks per year with this cycle repeating each time. During the summer, withdrawal volumes increase due to additional water usage for flock cooling purposes. A few farms have additional sanitary and other agricultural uses (crops/other livestock).

Facility Specific:
Excel Farm has four poultry houses and two production wells. The house sizes are 42 x 500 feet. Proposed withdrawal limits were calculated based on the total of both consumption (drinking water) and cooling. Water use for consumption was calculated based on data from a similar farm. Water use for cooling was calculated based on estimates based on house size and cooling fan capacity.

Volumes include minimal additional usage for onsite sanitary usage and farm maintenance.

The proposed withdrawal limits, well apportionment, and well construction details are as follows:

Proposed Withdrawal Limits:

Proposed Withdrawal Limits	
Annual Value	3,700,000 gallons (10,137 average gpd)
Monthly Value	900,000 gallons (29,032 average gpd)

Proposed Apportionment of Withdrawal:
Due to the well and plumbing configuration, the withdrawal will be apportioned fairly equally between the system wells. There is insufficient information to determine the source aquifer for the applicant wells. As a result, the modeling and analysis for this technical evaluation was performed for the Upper, Middle, and Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers. The annual proposed withdrawal limit was applied to separate model simulations for each aquifer. Sets of AOIs were created for each simulation and each separate simulation was evaluated for compliance with the 80% drawdown requirement, as well as potential to reduce water quality. The results are presented below in the *Model Results* section of this report – with each aquifer presented separately.

Production Well(s):

Identification	Location	Construction	Pump Intake	Source Aquifer
Owner Well Name: Well #1 DEQ Well Number: 100-01593 MPID: 375525075372101	Lat: 37° 55' 25.50" Lon: 75° 37' 21.34" Datum: WGS84 Elevation: 9	Completion Date: Not Known Screens (ft-bls): Not Known Total Depth (ft-bls): Not Known	Not Determined	Upper, Middle, or Lower Yorktown-Eastover
Owner Well Name: Well #2 DEQ Well Number: 100-01594 MPID: 375527075372002	Lat: 37° 55' 27.94" Lon: 75° 37' 20.45" Datum: WGS84 Elevation: 9	Completion Date: Not Known Screens (ft-bls): Not Known Total Depth (ft-bls): Not Known	Not Determined	Upper, Middle, or Lower Yorktown-Eastover

Geologic Setting:
The Excel Farm wells (applicant wells) are located in northern Accomack County. The production wells are screened in the Upper, Middle, or Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers. The upper portion of the Yorktown-Eastover aquifer (described in the 2006 Virginia Coastal Plain Hydrologic Framework[1] (VCPHF) as a combination of the Upper, Middle, and Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers) is composed primarily of estuarine to marine quartz sands of the Yorktown Formation of Pliocene age. The nearest USGS geologic cross section found in USGS Professional Paper 1731 is cross-section GS-GS' (see attached figure at the end of the report).

Virginia Eastern Shore Model data:
The following table lists the location of the applicant production wells within the Virginia Eastern Shore Model[2] (VAHydroGW-ES).

VAHydroGW-ES Model Grid				
Well	**Well Number**	**MPID**	**Row**	**Column**
Well #1	100-01593	375525075372101	57	31
Well #2	100-01594	375527075372002	57	31

Hydrologic Framework:
Data from the VCPHF is reported in this technical report to illustrate the hydrogeologic characteristics of the aquifers in the Virginia Eastern Shore near the applicant wells and identify major discrepancies between regional hydrogeology and site logs interpreted by the DEQ staff geologist.

The following average aquifer elevations were estimated from the VAHydroGW-ES at the model cell(s) containing the applicant production wells.

VAHydroGW-ES Average Hydrologic Unit Information		
Aquifer	**Elevation (feet msl)**	**Depth (feet bls)**
Surface	4	0
Columbia aquifer (bottom)	-21	25
Upper Yorktown-Eastover aquifer (top)	-69	73
Upper Yorktown-Eastover aquifer (bottom)	-97	101
Middle Yorktown-Eastover aquifer (top)	-125	129
Middle Yorktown-Eastover aquifer (bottom)	-173	177
Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifer (top)	-197	201
Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifer (bottom)	-288	292

Eastern Shore Hydrogeologic Framework Based Recommendations:
Due to a lack of geophysical borehole data, DEQ staff has reviewed available information and made the following preliminary determinations regarding the location of the aquifer tops for the following wells based upon a review of the GW-2 forms available and The Virginia Coastal Plain Hydrogeologic

[1] McFarland, E.R., and Bruce, T.S., 2006, The Virginia Coastal Plain Hydrogeologic Framework: U.S. Geological Survey Professional Paper 1731, 118 p., 25 pls.
[2] Sanford, W.E., Pope, J.P., and Nelms, D.L., 2009, Simulation of groundwater-level and salinity changes in the Eastern Shore, Virginia: U.S. Geological Survey Scientific Investigations Report 2009–5066, 125 p.

Framework (USGS Professional Paper 1731). Further evaluation of aquifer tops will be conducted during the upcoming permit term and as additional geophysical information becomes available.

Unit	Well #1 (ft-bls)	Well #2 (ft-bls)
Top of the Upper Yorktown-Eastover	78	78
Top of the Middle Yorktown-Eastover	134	134
Top of the Lower Yorktown-Eastover	206	206

Water Level Comparison:
Below water levels retrieved from the USGS regional observation network wells are compared to the simulated water levels reported in the *Virginia Eastern Shore 2017-2018 Annual Simulation of Potentiometric Groundwater Surface Elevations of Reported and Total Permitted Use* report (the 2017-2018 report) and simulation files.[3] This comparison is made in order to evaluate the performance of the regional model in the vicinity of the applicant wells and assess historical groundwater trends.

The 2017-2018 report provides two sets of simulated potentiometric water surface elevations. The VAHydroGW-ES model is divided into three parts. The first portion of the model simulates water levels within the Eastern Shore aquifers from 1900 through 2017 based upon historically reported pumping amounts (the "*Historic Use Simulation*"). This portion of the model has been calibrated to match water levels observed in USGS regional observation network wells situated throughout the peninsula. The water levels reported in the 2017-2018 report are based upon two separate simulations, each simulation running from 2018 through 2067. The simulated pumping amount in these two simulations are based upon, 1) the average 2013-2017 reported withdrawal amount of wells in the VAHydroGW-ES model (the "R*eported Use Simulation*") and, 2) the current (2018) maximum withdrawal amount allowed under their current permit for wells in the VAHydroGW-ES model (the "*Total Permitted Simulation*"). Both these simulations are an extension of the *Historic Use Simulation* and the water levels reported in the 2017-2018 report are the final water levels simulated at the end of the simulations (2067).

The "VAHydroGW-ES 2067 Reported Use Water Level," reported in the tables below, is the simulated water level – 50 years from present – if all permitted pumping continued at the average 2013-2017 reported withdrawal amount for the next 50 years. And the "VAHydroGW-ES 2067 Total Permitted Water Level," reported in the tables below, is the simulated water level – 50 years from present – if all Eastern Shore permitted wells were to pump at the maximum permitted amount allowed under their current permit for the next 50 years. Finally, the "VAHydroGW-ES 2017 Historic Use Water Level," reported in the tables below, is the water level simulated for the year 2017 in the *Historic Use Simulation*.

The nearest USGS regional observation network wells to the applicant wells, completed in the Upper, Middle, or Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers, are listed in the following tables and shown in Figure 1. For the USGS regional observation network wells, average 2017 reported water levels are shown in the following tables. Simulated water levels for the Upper, Middle, and Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers, for the VAHydroGW-ES cells containing the USGS regional observation network wells are also shown in the following tables.

[3] See *Virginia Eastern Shore 2017-2018 Annual Simulation of Potentiometric Groundwater Surface Elevations of Reported and Total Permitted Use* report and simulation files on file with the VA DEQ.

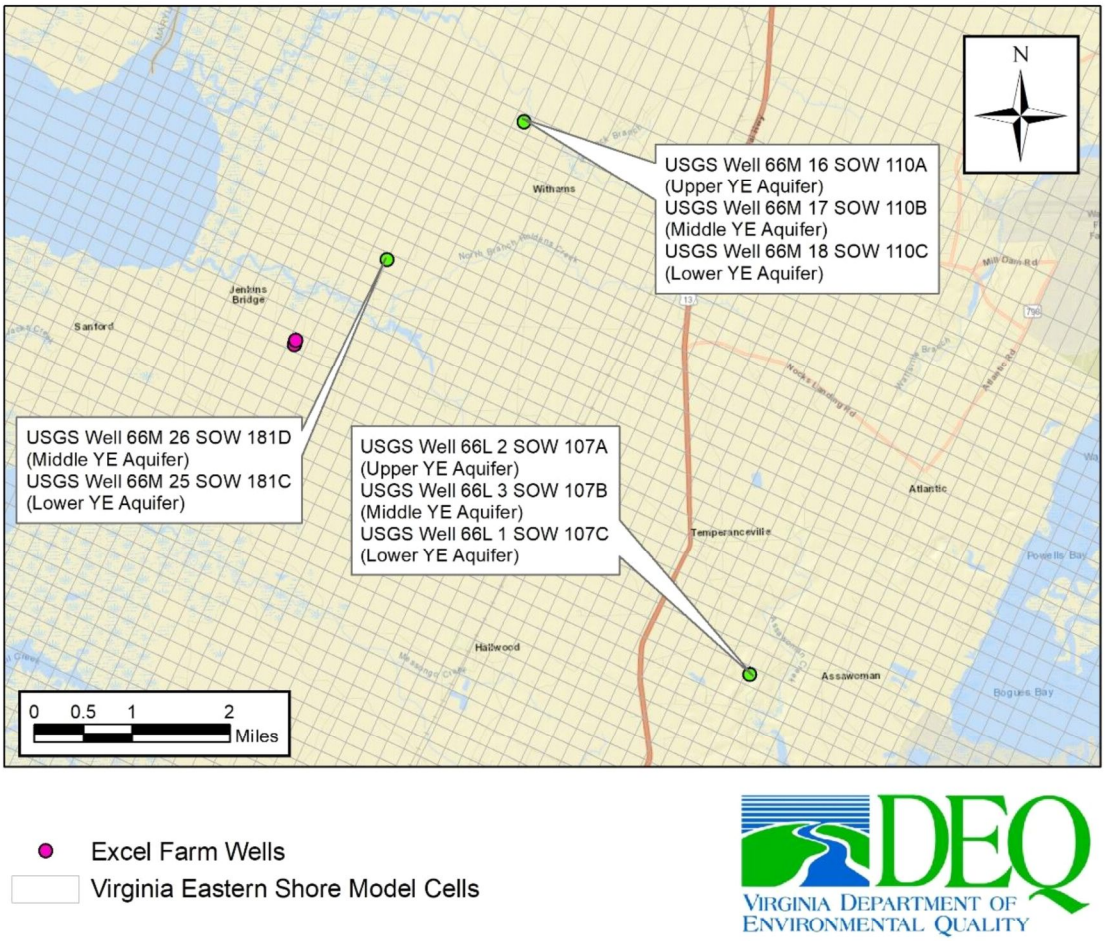


Figure 1. Nearest USGS regional observation network wells.

Comparing the VAHydroGW-ES 2017 Historic Use Water Level with the USGS Network Well 2017 Water Level provides a method for judging the accuracy of the VAHydroGW-ES. Figures 2 through 9 show graphs of the recorded water levels from the USGS observation wells listed in the following tables. These figures also show the simulated VAHydroGW-ES *Historic Use Simulation* water levels for the model cell containing each USGS well. Observing the simulated and observed water elevations together provide a second method for assessing the accuracy of the VAHydroGW-ES in the vicinity of the applicant wells.

The Upper Yorktown-Eastover VAHydroGW-ES 2017 Reported Use Water Level is the same value as the USGS Network Well 2017 Water Level observed in Well 66L 2 SOW 107A; while the 2017 VAHydroGW-ES water level is a few feet higher than the level observed in Well 66M 16 SOW 110A. The water levels observed over the past approximately 40 years in both Upper Yorktown-Eastover USGS wells are shown in Figures 2 and 3. Both wells exhibit yearly fluctuations in water levels of approximately 2 to 4 feet. Water levels simulated by the VAHydroGW-ES do not fluctuate in the same manner because the pumping and recharge simulated in the model for any given year are averaged over the year and entered in the model as the average value for the year. Water levels for Well 66L 2 SOW 107A are in general agreement with the water level simulated by the VAHydroGW-ES. Water levels for Well 66M 16 SOW 110A are approximately 4 feet lower for the period of record than those simulated by the VAHydroGW-ES.

The Middle Yorktown-Eastover VAHydroGW-ES 2017 Reported Use Water Levels are one-half to six feet lower than the USGS Network Well 2017 Water Levels observed in Well 66L 3 SOW 107B, Well 66M 17 SOW 110B, and Well 66M 26 SOW 181D. The water levels observed over the past 30 to 40 years in the

Middle Yorktown-Eastover USGS wells are shown in Figures 4 through 6. Each well exhibits yearly fluctuations in water levels of approximately 2 to 4 feet. Water levels for the USGS Middle Yorktown-Eastover wells are in general agreement with the water level simulated by the VAHydroGW-ES – especially for wells 66L 3 SOW 107B and 66M 17 SOW 110B. While still reasonably accurate, water levels for 66M 26 SOW 181D are lower than and have diverged slightly from those simulated by the VAHydroGW-ES over the past 15 years.

The Lower Yorktown-Eastover VAHydroGW-ES 2017 Reported Use Water Levels are one to five feet lower than the USGS Network Well 2017 Water Levels observed in Well 66L 1 SOW 107C, Well 66M 18 SOW 110C, and Well 66M 25 SOW 181C. The water levels observed over the past 30 to 40 years in the Lower Yorktown-Eastover USGS wells are shown in Figures 7 through 9. Each well exhibits yearly fluctuations in water levels of approximately 2 to 4 feet. Water levels for the USGS Lower Yorktown-Eastover wells are in general agreement with the water level simulated by the VAHydroGW-ES.

Differences between observed and simulated water levels will be noted and addressed during the next calibration of the VAHydroGW-ES.

Upper Yorktown-Eastover Measurements	**66L 2 SOW 107A**	**66M 16 SOW 110A**
Distance from applicant wells (miles)	5.8	3.2
VAHydroGW-ES Row	63	41
VAHydroGW-ES Column	61	37
VAHydroGW-ES Land Surface Elevation (ft-msl)	27	10
USGS Well Land Surface Elevation (ft-msl)	10	11
USGS Network Well 2017 Water Level (ft-msl)	0.9	1.1
VAHydroGW-ES 2017 Reported Use Water Level (ft-msl)	0.9	4.5
VAHydroGW-ES 2067 Reported Use Water Level (ft-msl)	0.2	4.5
VAHydroGW-ES 2067 Total Permitted Water Level (ft-msl)	-0.9	4.5

Middle Yorktown-Eastover Measurements	**66L 3 SOW 107B**	**66M 17 SOW 110B**	**66M 26 SOW 181D**
Distance from applicant wells (miles)	5.8	3.2	1.2
VAHydroGW-ES Row	63	41	51
VAHydroGW-ES Column	61	37	33
VAHydroGW-ES Land Surface Elevation (ft-msl)	27	10	6
Land Surface Elevation (ft-msl)	10	11	6
USGS Network Well 2017 Water Level (ft-msl)	0.5	0.3	5.0
VAHydroGW-ES 2017 Reported Use Water Level (ft-msl)	0.0	-1.0	-1.1
VAHydroGW-ES 2067 Reported Use Water Level (ft-msl)	-0.7	-2.1	-1.7
VAHydroGW-ES 2067 Total Permitted Water Level (ft-msl)	-31.4	-2.7	-2.1

Lower Yorktown-Eastover Measurements	66L 1 SOW 107C	66M 18 SOW 110C	66M 25 SOW 181C
Distance from applicant wells (miles)	5.8	3.2	1.2
VAHydroGW-ES Row	63	41	51
VAHydroGW-ES Column	61	37	33
VAHydroGW-ES Land Surface Elevation (ft-msl)	27	10	6
Land Surface Elevation (ft-msl)	10	11	6
USGS Network Well 2017 Water Level (ft-msl)	-0.9	-0.3	2.1
VAHydroGW-ES 2017 Reported Use Water Level (ft-msl)	0.0	-1.1	-1.1
VAHydroGW-ES 2067 Reported Use Water Level (ft-msl)	-0.8	-2.2	-1.7
VAHydroGW-ES 2067 Total Permitted Water Level (ft-msl)	-1.9	-2.8	-2.2

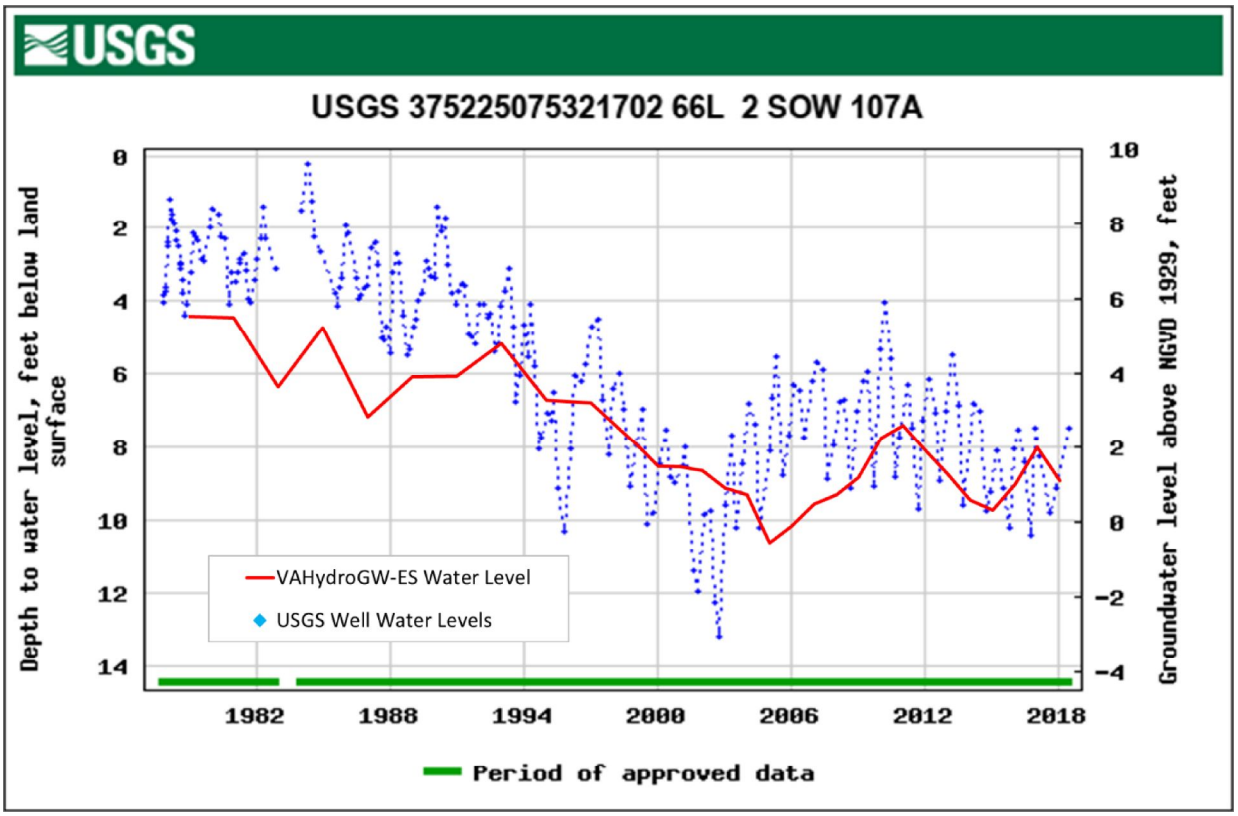


Figure 2. USGS Regional Observation Well 66L 2 SOW 107A, Upper Yorktown-Eastover aquifer water levels recorded from 1977 to present (well depth 140 ft bls, land surface 10 ft msl).

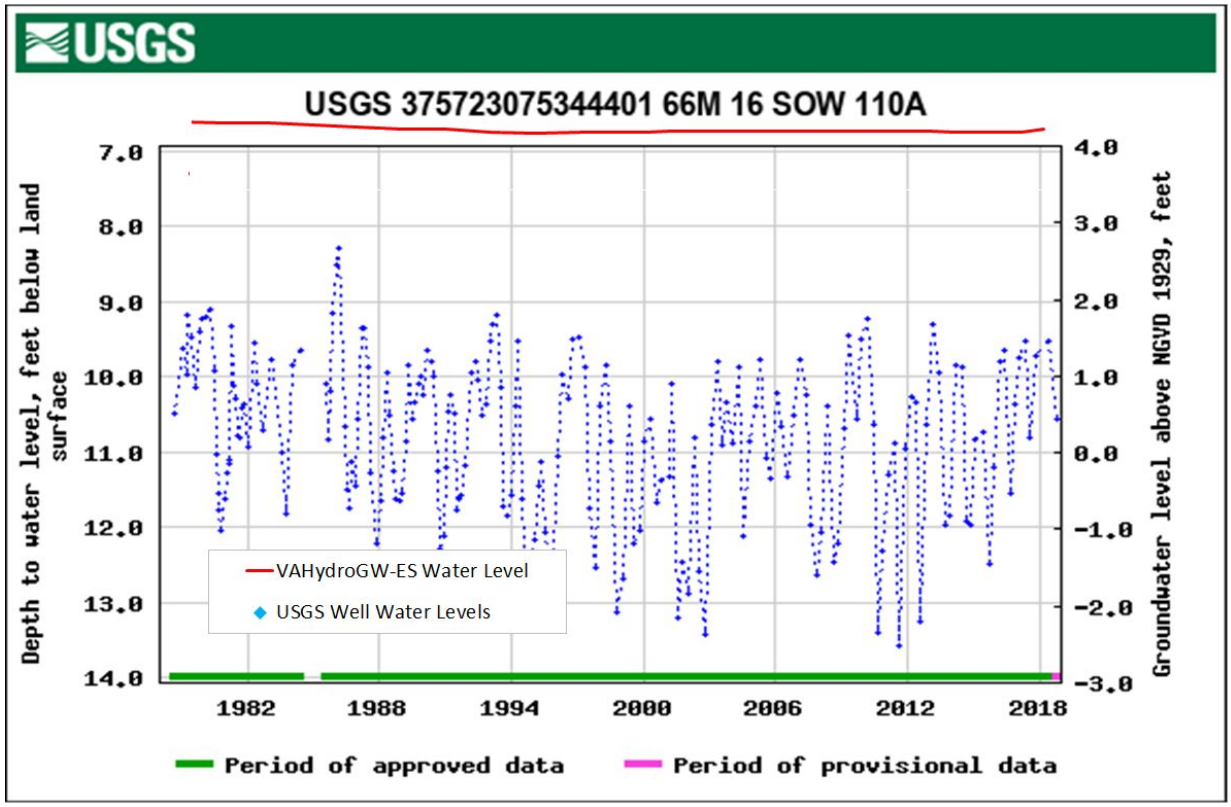


Figure 3. USGS Regional Observation Well 66M 16 SOW 110A, Upper Yorktown-Eastover aquifer water levels recorded from 1978 to present (well depth 130 ft bls, land surface 11 ft msl).

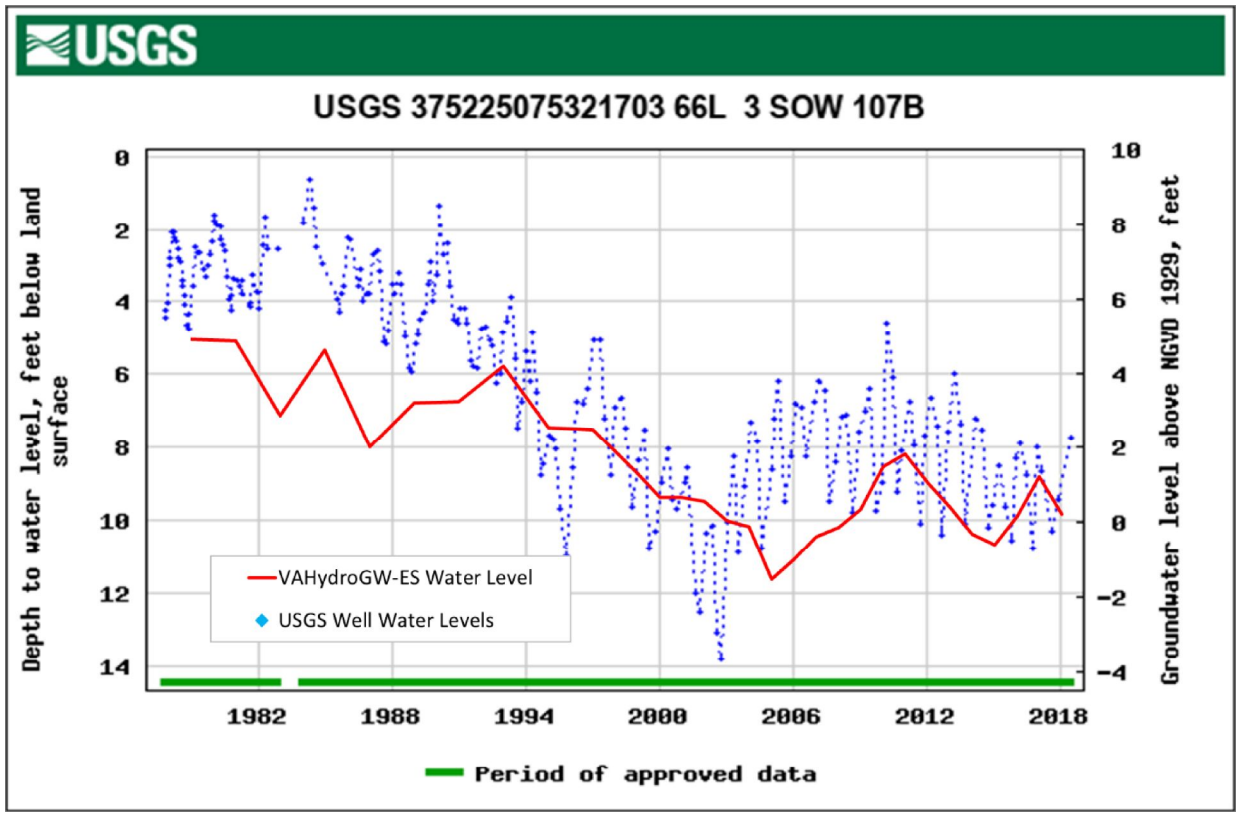


Figure 4. USGS Regional Observation Well 66L 3 SOW 107B, Middle Yorktown-Eastover aquifer water levels recorded from 1977 to present (well depth 206 ft bls, land surface 10 ft msl).

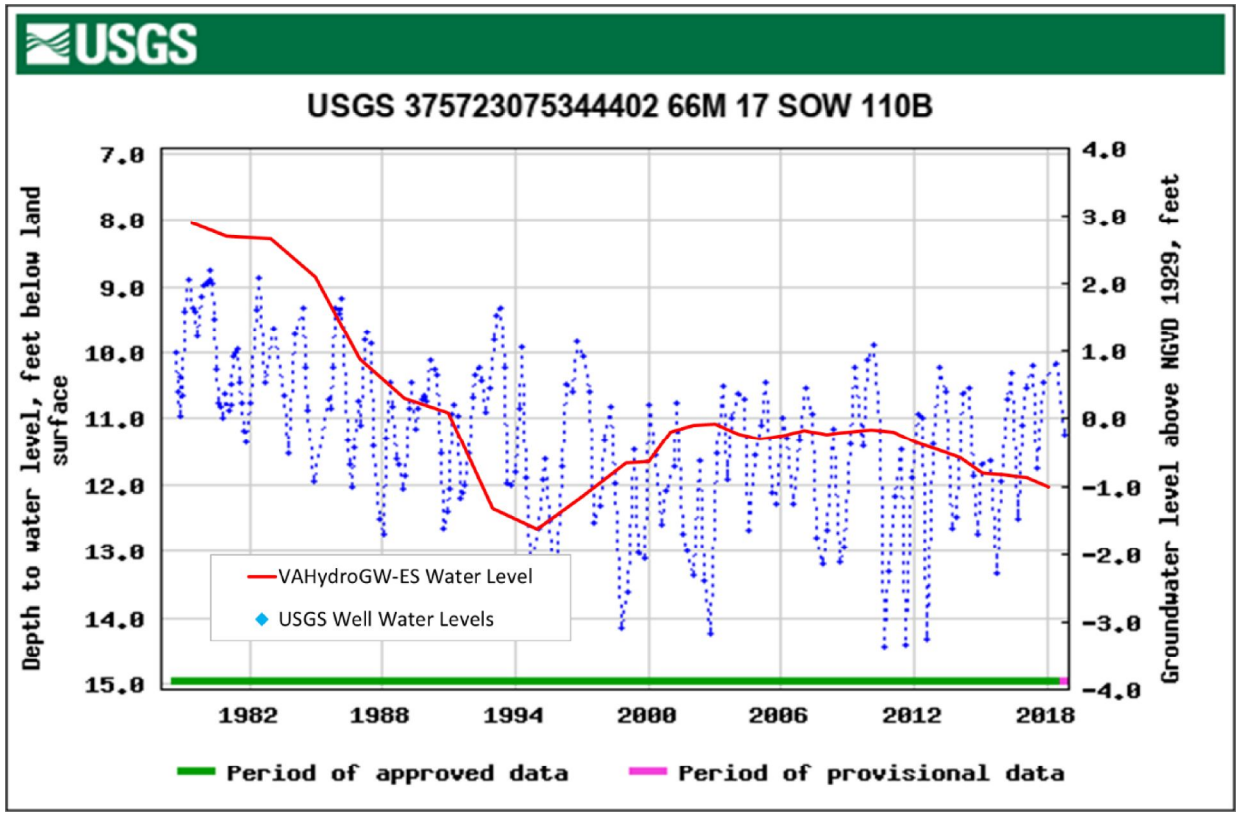


Figure 5. USGS Regional Observation Well 66M 17 SOW 110B, Middle Yorktown-Eastover aquifer water levels recorded from 1978 to present (well depth 178 ft bls, land surface 11 ft msl).

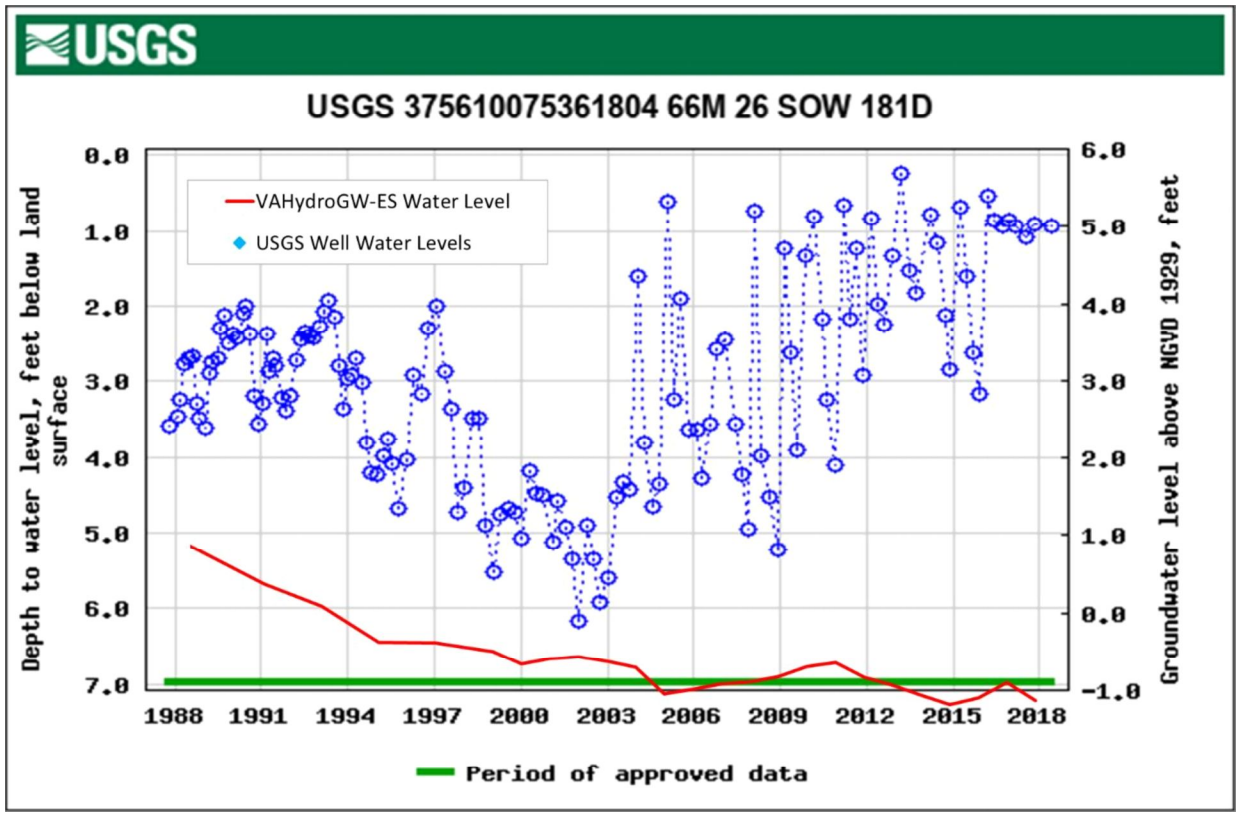


Figure 6. USGS Regional Observation Well 66M 26 SOW 181D, Middle Yorktown-Eastover aquifer water levels recorded from 1987 to present (well depth 230 ft bls, land surface 6 ft msl).

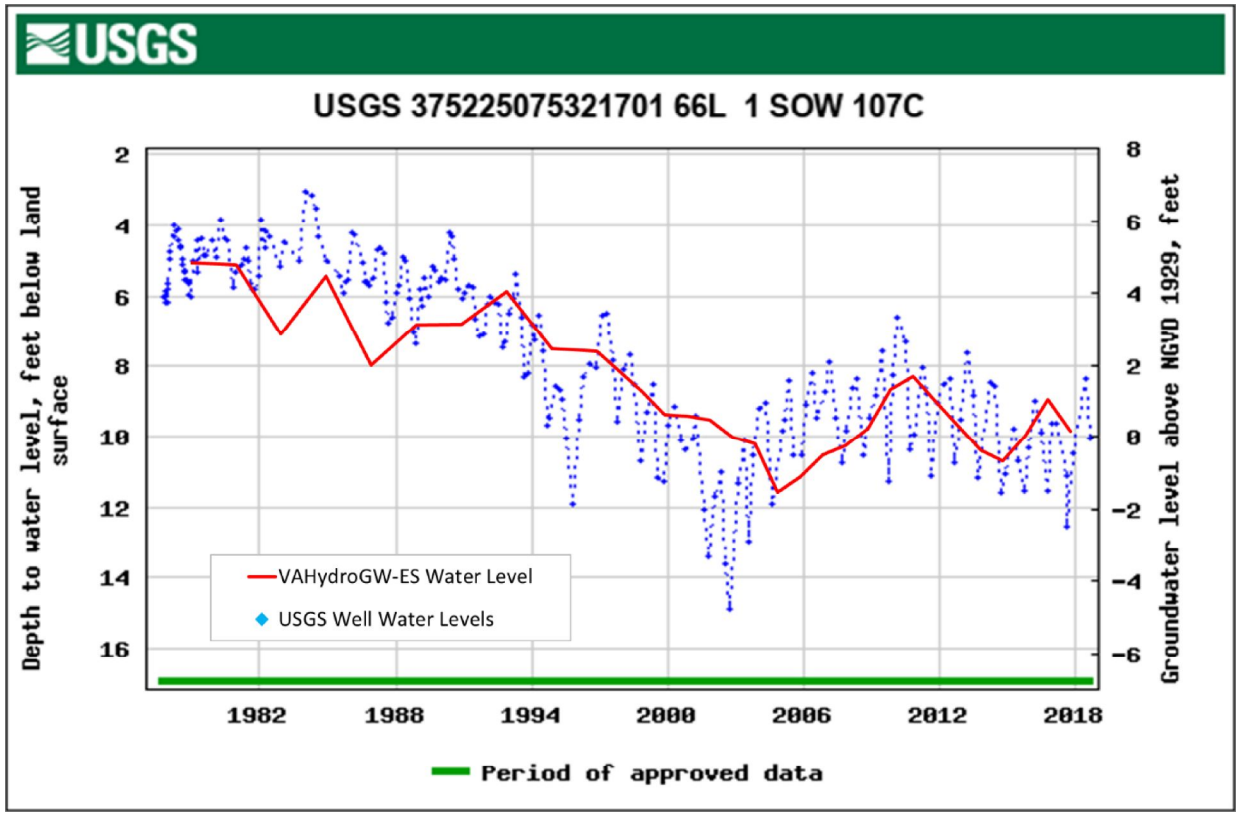


Figure 7. USGS Regional Observation Well 66L 1 SOW 107C, Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifer water levels recorded from 1977 to present (well depth 305 ft bls, land surface 10 ft msl).

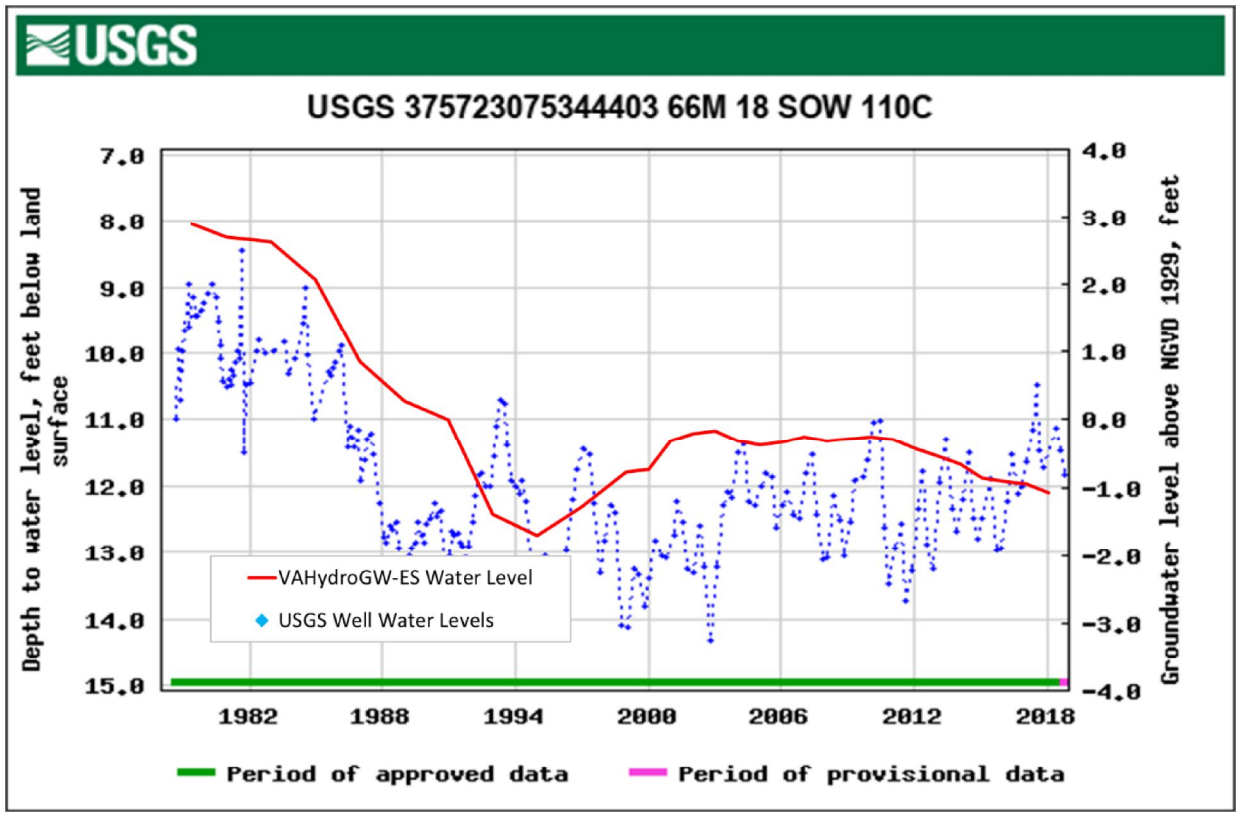


Figure 8. USGS Regional Observation Well 66M 18 SOW 110C, Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifer water levels recorded from 1978 to present (well depth 240 ft bls, land surface 11 ft msl).

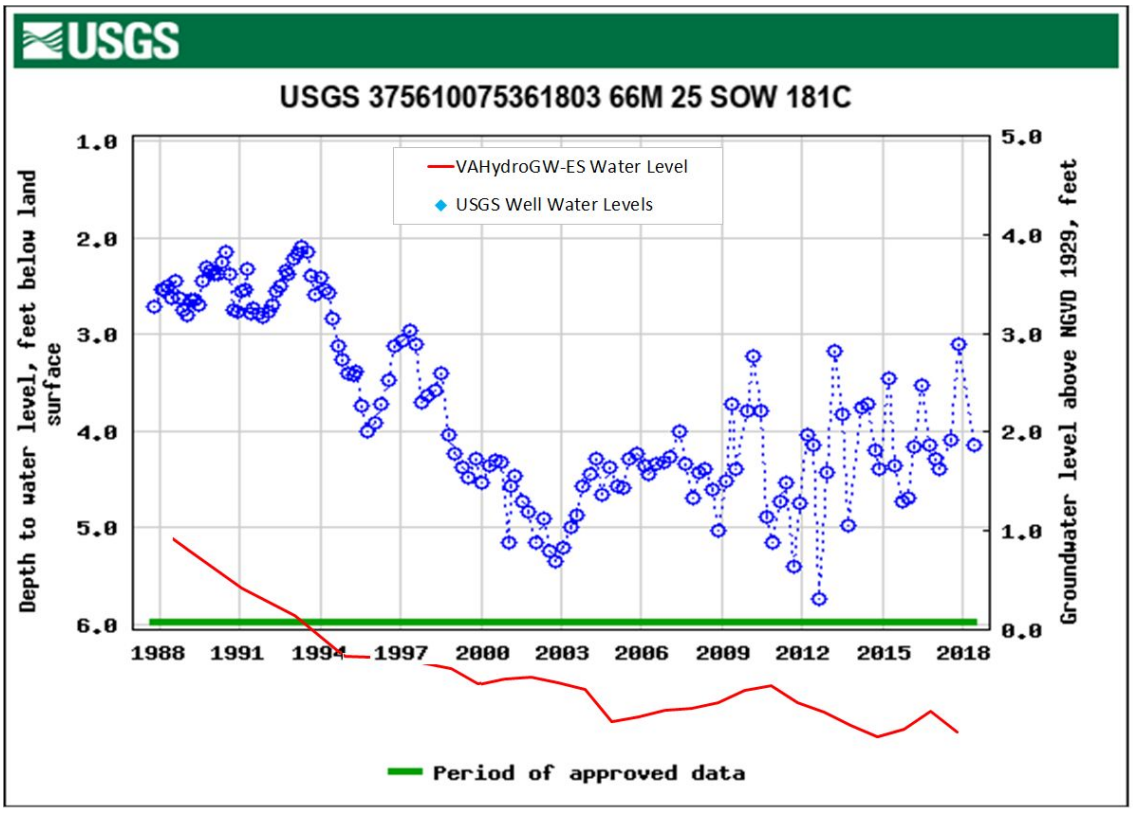


Figure 9. USGS Regional Observation Well 66M 25 SOW 181C, Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifer water levels recorded from 1987 to present (well depth 340 ft bls, land surface 6 ft msl).

Aquifer Test(s):

An aquifer test has not been conducted for this system and the VAHydroGW-ES model, and model parameters, were used to evaluate the application. The following table provides the hydrogeologic properties assigned to the VAHydroGW-ES cell containing the applicant wells.

Virginia Eastern Shore Model Hydrogeologic Properties: Row 57/Column 31							
Aquifer	**Top Elevation (feet msl)**	**Top Elevation (feet bls)**	**Aquifer Thickness (feet)**	**Horizontal Conductivity (feet/day)**	**Vertical Conductivity (feet/day)**	**Specific Storage (1/feet)**	**Specific Yield**
Columbia	4	0	25	74	0.5	0.00001	0.15
Upper Yorktown-Eastover	-69	73	28	1	0.7	0.000004	N/A
Middle Yorktown-Eastover	-125	129	48	43	60.2	0.000004	N/A
Lower Yorktown-Eastover	-197	201	91	2	1.6	0.000004	N/A

Model Results - Upper Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer

Evaluation of Withdrawal Impacts – <u>Upper Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer:</u>

The VAHydroGW-ES model was used to simulate the effects resulting from the proposed withdrawal. The stabilized effects resulting from the proposed withdrawal were simulated at the annual permitted withdrawal rate of 3,700,000 gallons per year (10,137 average gpd). The stabilized effects were simulated by replacing the reported use amounts in the 2017 VAHydroGW-ES Reported Use Simulation with the current maximum annual withdrawal limit allowed under the terms of their permit for all Ground Water Management Area (GWMA) permit holders. That same simulation was executed twice, once with

the proposed withdrawal removed (the *baseline simulation*), and once with the proposed withdrawal added to the Upper Yorktown-Eastover aquifer (the *proposed withdrawal simulation*). The stabilized effects of the proposed withdrawal were considered by simulating both simulations for 50 years and observing the difference in water potentiometric levels at the end of the simulations.

Area of Impact – Upper Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer:
The area of impact (AOI) for an aquifer is the area where the additional drawdown due to the proposed withdrawal exceeds one foot. The results of the VAHydroGW-ES simulations, outlined in the preceding section, predict an area of impact in the Upper Yorktown-Eastover aquifer. The AOI area extends a maximum distance of approximately 0.2 miles from the production center for the Upper Yorktown-Eastover aquifer. AOI maps for all affected aquifers are attached to this report.

80% Drawdown – Upper Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer:
The 80% drawdown criterion was evaluated for all impacted, confined aquifers in the Virginia Eastern Shore using the VAHydroGW-ES *proposed withdrawal simulation*. The elevations of the top of the Upper, Middle, and Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers at the VAHydroGW-ES cell (row 57, column 31) simulating the greatest drawdown are -69, -125, and -197 feet msl, respectively. Based on the results of the *proposed withdrawal simulation* the predicted potentiometric water levels at the same VAHydroGW-ES cell are -2.9, -1.8, and -1.9 feet msl for the Upper, Middle, and Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers, respectively. The 80% drawdown criterion allows the potentiometric water level (based on the critical surface elevation calculated from the VAHydroGW-ES data) to be reduced to -55.0, -99.0, and -156.6 feet msl in the Upper, Middle, and Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers, respectively. Therefore, the water levels in the VAHydroGW-ES cell containing the applicant wells for each confined aquifer are not simulated to fall below the critical surface. Additionally, no new VAHydroGW-ES cells are simulated to have water levels fall below the critical surface. Therefore, this withdrawal is within the limits set by the 80% drawdown criterion.

Water Quality – Upper Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer:
The EPA has established the National Secondary Drinking Water Regulations (NSDWRs) which are non-enforceable guidelines regulating contaminants that may cause cosmetic or aesthetic (such as taste, odor, or color) effects in drinking water. The EPA recommends the secondary standards to water systems – states may choose to adopt them as enforceable standards. The EPA NSDWRs specify the limit on chloride as 250 mg/L.

The VAHydroGW-ES was created "to help the Commonwealth and local water managers better plan water use and estimate future changes in water and salinity levels in response to changes in water use."[4] Use of the model to predict future chloride concentrations results in a "general useful understanding of system behavior, but water-resource managers must be careful in trusting the accuracy of predictions at individual wells from a regional model."[5] Further, chloride concentrations at individual wells, predicted using the regional model, should not be relied upon to predict actual concentrations at those locations.

The potential for adverse changes to water quality due to the requested withdrawal was evaluated using transient, density-dependent, SEAWAT simulations using the VAHydroGW-ES. Two simulations were executed – one simulation without the proposed withdrawal included and a second with the proposed withdrawal included. Both simulations were executed for 50 years. And both used the 2017 total permitted stresses, concentrations, and heads as starting conditions. In an effort to simulate the long-term

[4] Sanford, W.E., Pope, J.P., and Nelms, D.L., 2009, Simulation of groundwater-level and salinity changes in the Eastern Shore, Virginia: U.S. Geological Survey Scientific Investigations Report 2009–5066, 125 p.
[5] Sanford, W.E. and Pope, J.P., 2009, Current challenges using models to forecast seawater intrusion: lessons from the Eastern Shore of Virginia, USA. Hydrogeology Journal (2009), Volume: 18, Issue: 1, p: 73-93

effects on water quality due to the proposed withdrawal, the amount of 3,700,000 gallons per year (10,137 average gpd) from the Upper Yorktown-Eastover aquifer was used for the duration of the second simulation. The two simulations were compared to evaluate the potential for adverse changes to water quality. The results indicated that no model cells simulate an increase in chloride concentration greater than 10 mg/L due to the proposed withdrawal. Therefore, the VAHydroGW-ES model results do not indicate the potential for reduced water quality as a result of the proposed withdrawal.

An aquifer test has not been conducted for this system and the VAHydroGW-ES model parameters will be used to evaluate the application. The following table provides the average hydrogeologic properties assigned to the VAHydroGW-ES cell(s) containing the applicant wells.

Model Results – Middle Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer

Evaluation of Withdrawal Impacts – Middle Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer:
The Middle Yorktown-Eastover aquifer horizontal hydraulic conductivity simulated in the VAHydroGW-ES in the vicinity of the applicant wells is much higher than that of the Upper or Lower aquifers. As a result, the VAHydroGW-ES did not simulate enough drawdown in the model cell containing the applicant wells to create an AOI. For that reason, and because an aquifer pump test was not performed, the properties from the VAHydroGW-ES were used to simulate the potential drawdown resulting from the proposed withdrawal assigned to the Middle Yorktown-Eastover aquifer. The drawdown in the Middle Yorktown-Eastover aquifer resulting from the proposed withdrawal was calculated using a Hantush and Jacob (1955) 2-D analytical simulation. The Hantush and Jacob simulation simulates drawdown in a leaky aquifer assuming constant discharge from a fully penetrating well and most closely simulates the aquifer properties observed in the Eastern Shore area. The Middle Yorktown-Eastover aquifer hydraulic conductivity and specific storage were multiplied by the VAHydroGW-ES aquifer thickness (49 feet) to obtain the aquifer transmissivity and storage coefficient used to simulate drawdown. The Middle Yorktown-Eastover confining unit thickness and vertical hydraulic conductivity values for the cell containing the applicant wells are 29 feet and 0.000056 ft/day, respectively. These values were used to calculate a Middle Yorktown-Eastover inverse leakage factor (1/B). For the 2-D analytical simulations the following parameters were used:

Middle Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer Model Input Parameters: (Hantush and Jacob 1955 solution based on aquifer parameters obtained from the VAHydroGW-ES)

Transmissivity	=	833 ft^2/day
Storage Coefficient	=	1.96×10^{-4}
1/B	=	4.81×10^{-5} ft^{-1}

Withdrawal rate/Simulation Time: 50 years at a rate of 3,700,000 gallons per year (10,137 average gpd) from the Middle Yorktown-Eastover aquifer. The withdrawal rate was divided equally among the applicant wells.

Model Results - Area of Impact – Middle Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer:
The results from the Hantush-Jacob analytical simulation, with the parameters outlined above, simulate that the Middle Yorktown-Eastover AOI extends a maximum of 510 feet from the production center. This area is shown on the accompanying map.

80% Drawdown – Middle Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer:
The 80% drawdown criterion was evaluated using the VAHydroGW-ES and the Hantush-Jacob analytical simulation. A base simulation was developed to predict the impacts from all existing permits (except the applicant wells) operating at their 2017 maximum annual withdrawal limit allowed under the terms of their

permit for all Ground Water Management Area (GWMA) permit holders. The base simulation used the 2018 Total Permitted pumping rates and 2017 simulated Reported Use water levels as starting conditions. The base simulation was executed for 50 years. A second simulation was conducted using the 2D Hantush-Jacob analytical simulation to simulate drawdown resulting from the applicant wells using the parameters and withdrawal rate listed above in the *Model Input Parameters* section of this report. For the baseline simulation, the Middle Yorktown-Eastover aquifer VAHydroGW-ES cell containing the applicant wells simulated an average potentiometric water surface of -1.8 ft-msl. The analytical simulation simulated a maximum drawdown of 2.1 feet.

Subtracting the maximum drawdown simulated in the analytical simulation from the simulated water level in the baseline VAHydroGW-ES simulation at the cell containing the applicant wells results in a simulated water level of -3.9 ft-msl for the Middle Yorktown-Eastover aquifer. This approach for simulating the potentiometric surface elevation is the most conservative for the resource. The elevation of the Middle Yorktown-Eastover aquifer top at the VAHydroGW-ES row 57/column 31 is -125 ft-msl. The 80% drawdown requirement allows the potentiometric surface (based on the critical surface elevation calculated from the VAHydroGW-ES data) to be reduced to -99.0 ft-msl in the Middle Yorktown-Eastover aquifer at the cell node nearest the applicant wells. Therefore, the water level in the source aquifer is not simulated to fall below the critical surface.

Additionally, the Middle Yorktown-Eastover aquifer AOI does not contain or intersect any VAHydroGW-ES cells simulated to have a potentiometric water level below the 80% drawdown requirement. No new VAHydroGW-ES cells are simulated to have water levels fall below the critical surface. Therefore, this withdrawal is within the limits set by the 80% drawdown criterion.

Water Quality – Middle Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer:
The potential for adverse changes to water quality due to the requested withdrawal was evaluated using transient, density-dependent, SEAWAT simulations using the VAHydroGW-ES. Two simulations were executed – one simulation without the proposed withdrawal included and a second with the proposed withdrawal included. Both simulations were executed for 50 years. And both used the 2017 total permitted stresses, concentrations, and heads as starting conditions. In an effort to simulate the long-term effects on water quality due to the proposed withdrawal, the amount of 3,700,000 gallons per year (10,137 average gpd) from the Middle Yorktown-Eastover aquifer was used for the duration of the second simulation. The two simulations were compared to evaluate the potential for adverse changes to water quality. The results indicated that no model cells simulate an increase in chloride concentration greater than 20 mg/L due to the proposed withdrawal. Therefore, the VAHydroGW-ES model results do not indicate the potential for reduced water quality as a result of the proposed withdrawal.

Model Results - Lower Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer

Evaluation of Withdrawal Impacts – Lower Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer:
The VAHydroGW-ES model was used to simulate the effects resulting from the proposed withdrawal. The stabilized effects resulting from the proposed withdrawal were simulated at the annual permitted withdrawal rate of 3,700,000 gallons per year (10,137 average gpd). The stabilized effects were simulated by replacing the reported use amounts in the 2017 VAHydroGW-ES Reported Use Simulation with the current maximum annual withdrawal limit allowed under the terms of their permit for all Ground Water Management Area (GWMA) permit holders. That same simulation was executed twice, once with the proposed withdrawal removed (the *baseline simulation*), and once with the proposed withdrawal added to the Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifer (the *proposed withdrawal simulation*). The stabilized effects of the proposed withdrawal were considered by simulating both simulations for 50 years and observing the difference in water potentiometric levels at the end of the simulations.

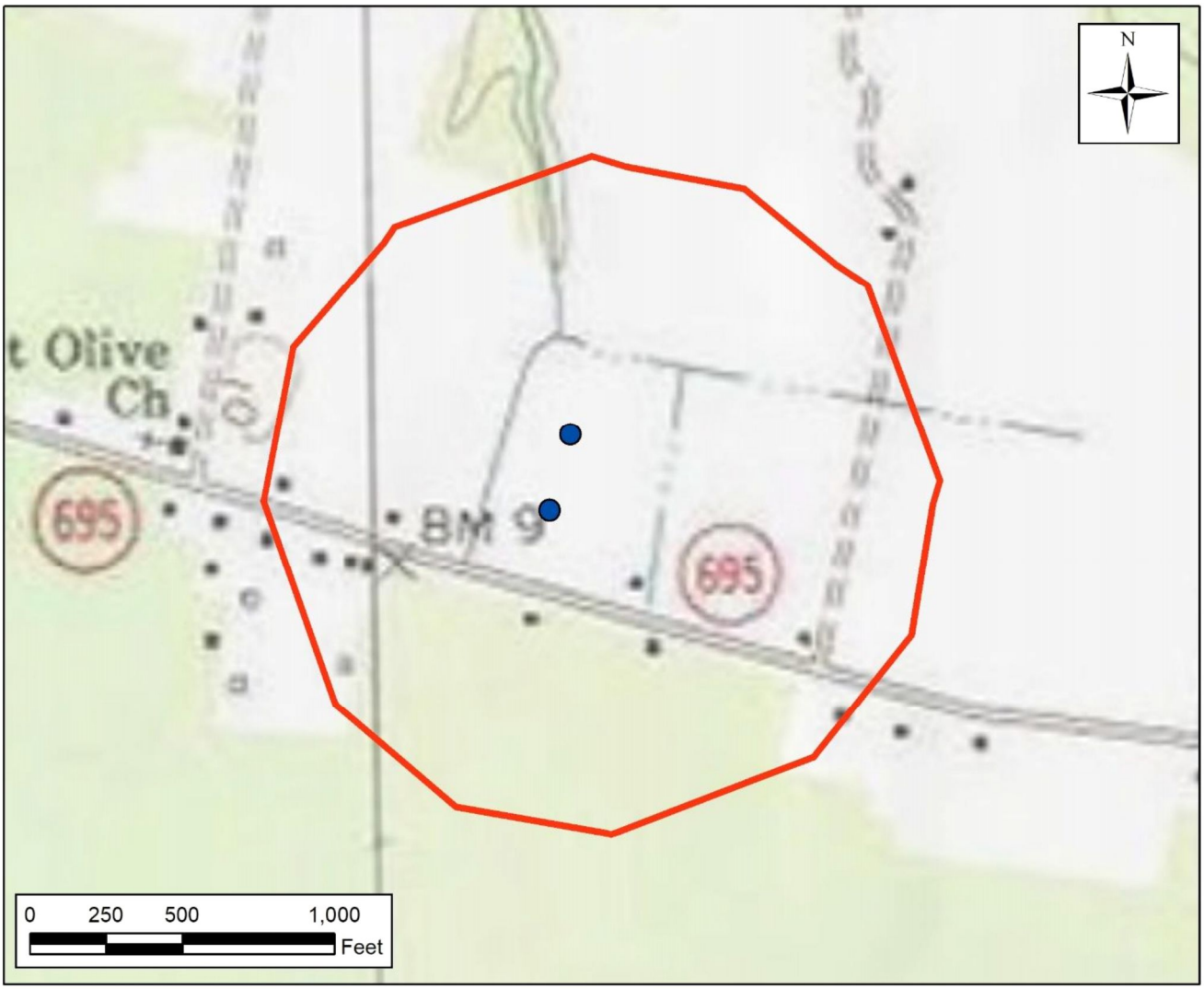
Area of Impact – Lower Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer:
The results of the VAHydroGW-ES simulations, outlined in the preceding section, predict an area of impact in the Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifer. The AOI area extends a maximum distance of approximately 0.3 miles from the production center for the Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifer. AOI maps for all affected aquifers are attached to this report.

80% Drawdown – Lower Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer:
The 80% drawdown criterion was evaluated for all impacted, confined aquifers in the Virginia Eastern Shore using the VAHydroGW-ES *proposed withdrawal simulation*. The elevations of the top of the Upper, Middle, and Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers at the VAHydroGW-ES cell (row 57, column 31) simulating the greatest drawdown are -69, -125, and -197 feet msl, respectively. Based on the results of the *proposed withdrawal simulation* the predicted potentiometric water levels at the same VAHydroGW-ES cell are -0.1, -2.1, and -6.7 feet msl for the Upper, Middle, and Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers, respectively. The 80% drawdown criterion allows the potentiometric water level (based on the critical surface elevation calculated from the VAHydroGW-ES data) to be reduced to -55.0, -99.0, and -156.6 feet msl in the Upper, Middle, and Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers, respectively. Therefore, the water levels in the VAHydroGW-ES cell containing the applicant wells for each confined aquifer are not simulated to fall below the critical surface. Additionally, no new VAHydroGW-ES cells are simulated to have water levels fall below the critical surface. Therefore, this withdrawal is within the limits set by the 80% drawdown criterion.

Water Quality – Lower Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer:
The potential for adverse changes to water quality due to the requested withdrawal was evaluated using transient, density-dependent, SEAWAT simulations using the VAHydroGW-ES. Two simulations were executed – one simulation without the proposed withdrawal included and a second with the proposed withdrawal included. Both simulations were executed for 50 years. And both used the 2017 total permitted stresses, concentrations, and heads as starting conditions. In an effort to simulate the long-term effects on water quality due to the proposed withdrawal, the amount of 3,700,000 gallons per year (10,137 average gpd) from the Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifer was used for the duration of the second simulation. The two simulations were compared to evaluate the potential for adverse changes to water quality. The results indicated that no model cells simulate an increase in chloride concentration greater than 20 mg/L due to the proposed withdrawal. Therefore, the VAHydroGW-ES model results do not indicate the potential for reduced water quality as a result of the proposed withdrawal.

Conclusion:
The withdrawal requested by Tri Minh Tran for the Excel Farm withdrawal satisfies the technical evaluation criteria for permit issuance. The AOIs for the Upper, Middle, and Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers are shown in the following maps. There are no existing permitted wells located within the applicant's AOIs.

Excel Farm
Area of Impact - Upper Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer



Excel Farm Wells

Upper Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer Area of Impact

Simulated drawdown at or exceeding one foot in the Upper Yorktown-Eastover aquifer resulting from a 3,700,000 gallons per year (10,137 average gpd), 50 year, Upper Yorktown-Eastover aquifer withdrawal using the VAHydroGW-ES.

Maximum radius of one foot drawdown (Area of Influence) extends approximately 0.2 miles from the pumping center.

Technical evaluation performed by Aquaveo, LLC for the Virginia DEQ, Office of Water Supply
December 14, 2018

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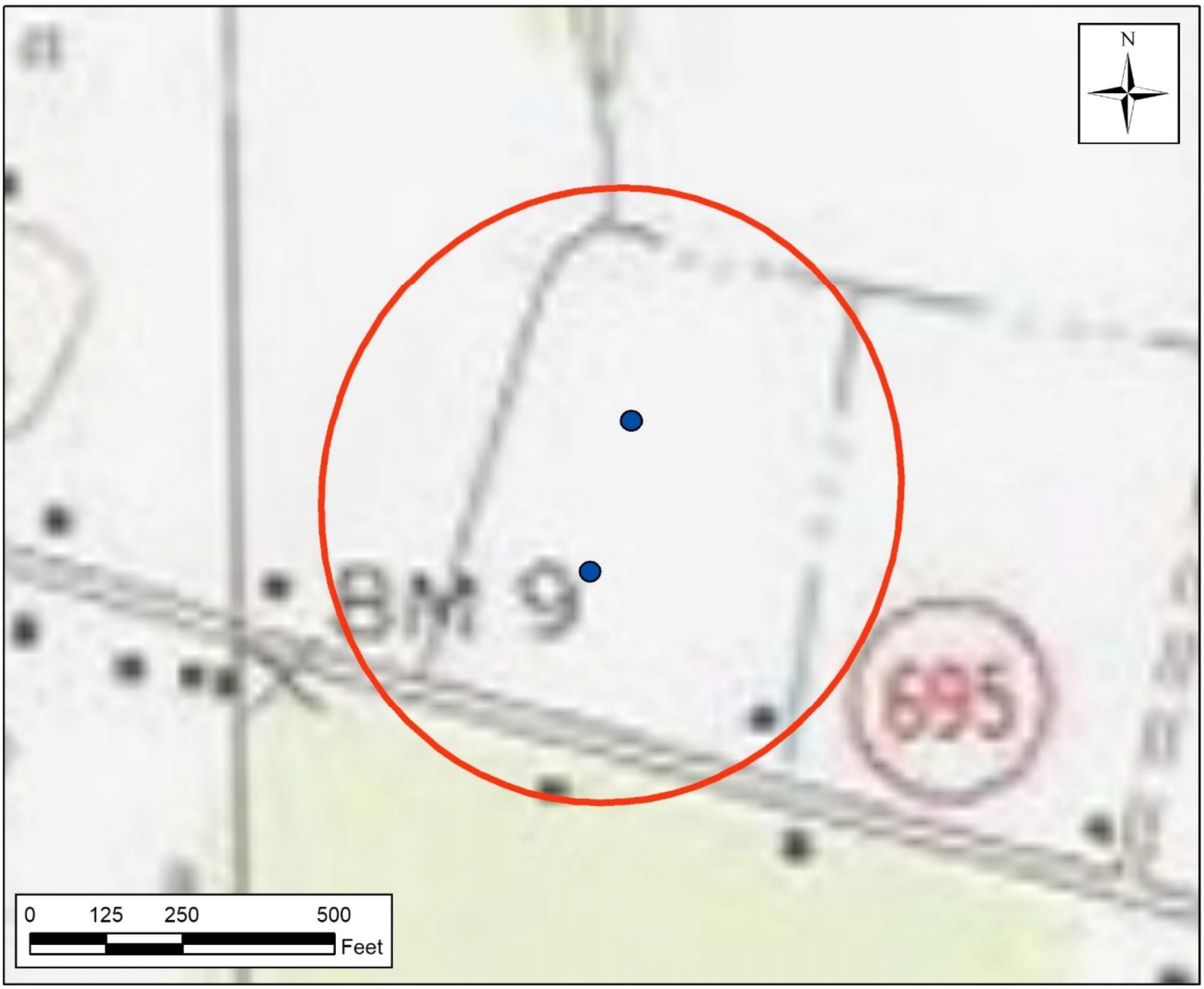
VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Excel Farm
Area of Impact - Middle Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer



Excel Farm Wells

Middle Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer Area of Impact

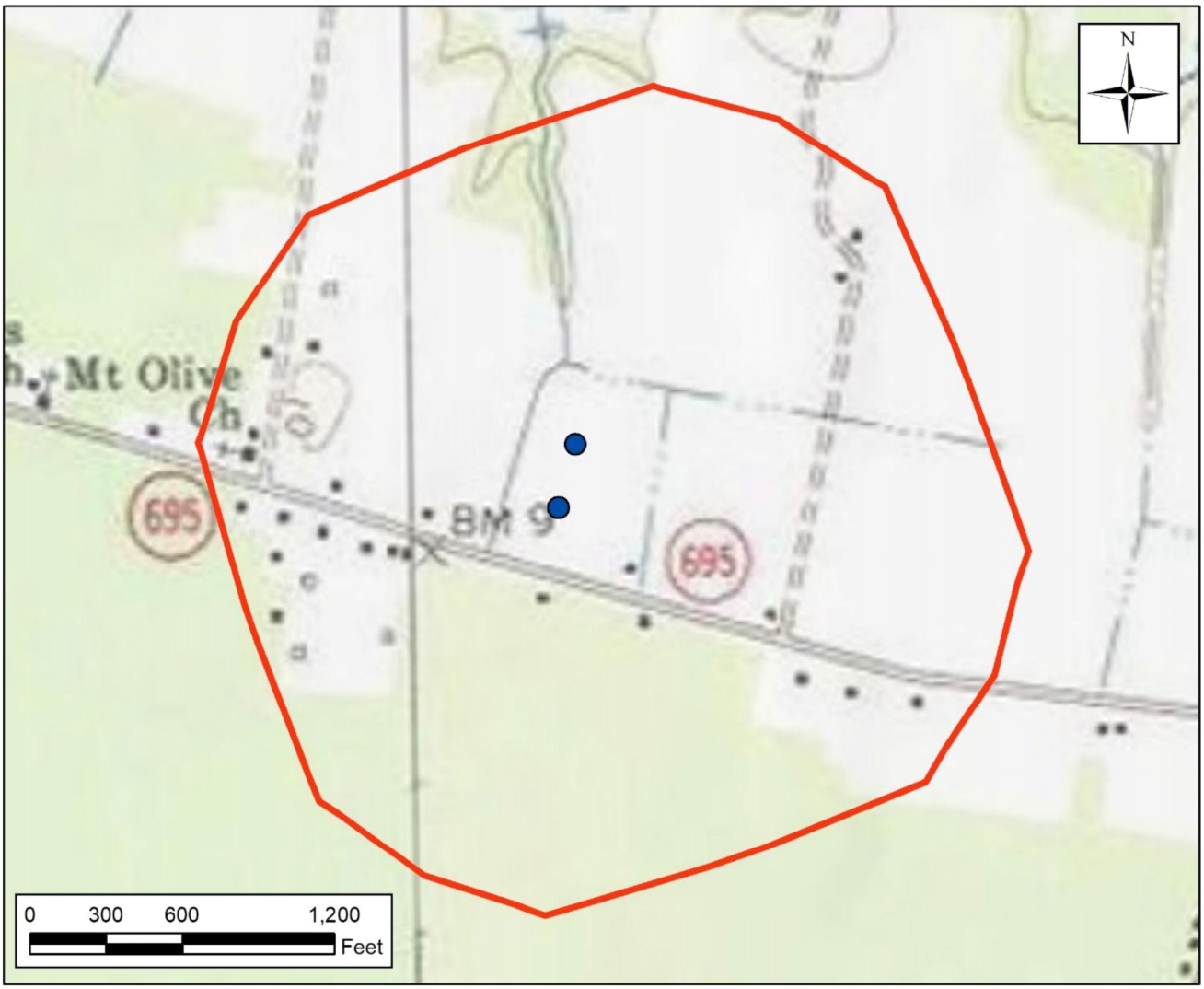
Simulated drawdown at or exceeding one foot in the Middle Yorktown-Eastover aquifer resulting from a 2-dmensional Hantush-Jacob (1955) analytical simulation of 3,700,000 gallons per year (10,137 average gpd) for 50 years from the Middle Yorktown-Eastover aquifer.

Maximum radius of one foot drawdown (Area of Impact) extends approximately 510 feet from the pumping center.

Technical evaluation performed by Aquaveo, LLC for the Virginia DEQ, Office of Water Supply
December 14, 2018

DEQ
VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Excel Farm
Area of Impact - Lower Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer



Excel Farm Wells

Lower Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer Area of Impact

Simulated drawdown at or exceeding one foot in the Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifer resulting from a 3,700,000 gallons per year (10,137 average gpd), 50 year, Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifer withdrawal using the VAHydroGW-ES.

Maximum radius of one foot drawdown (Area of Influence) extends approximately 0.3 miles from the pumping center.

Technical evaluation performed by Aquaveo, LLC for the Virginia DEQ, Office of Water Supply
December 14, 2018

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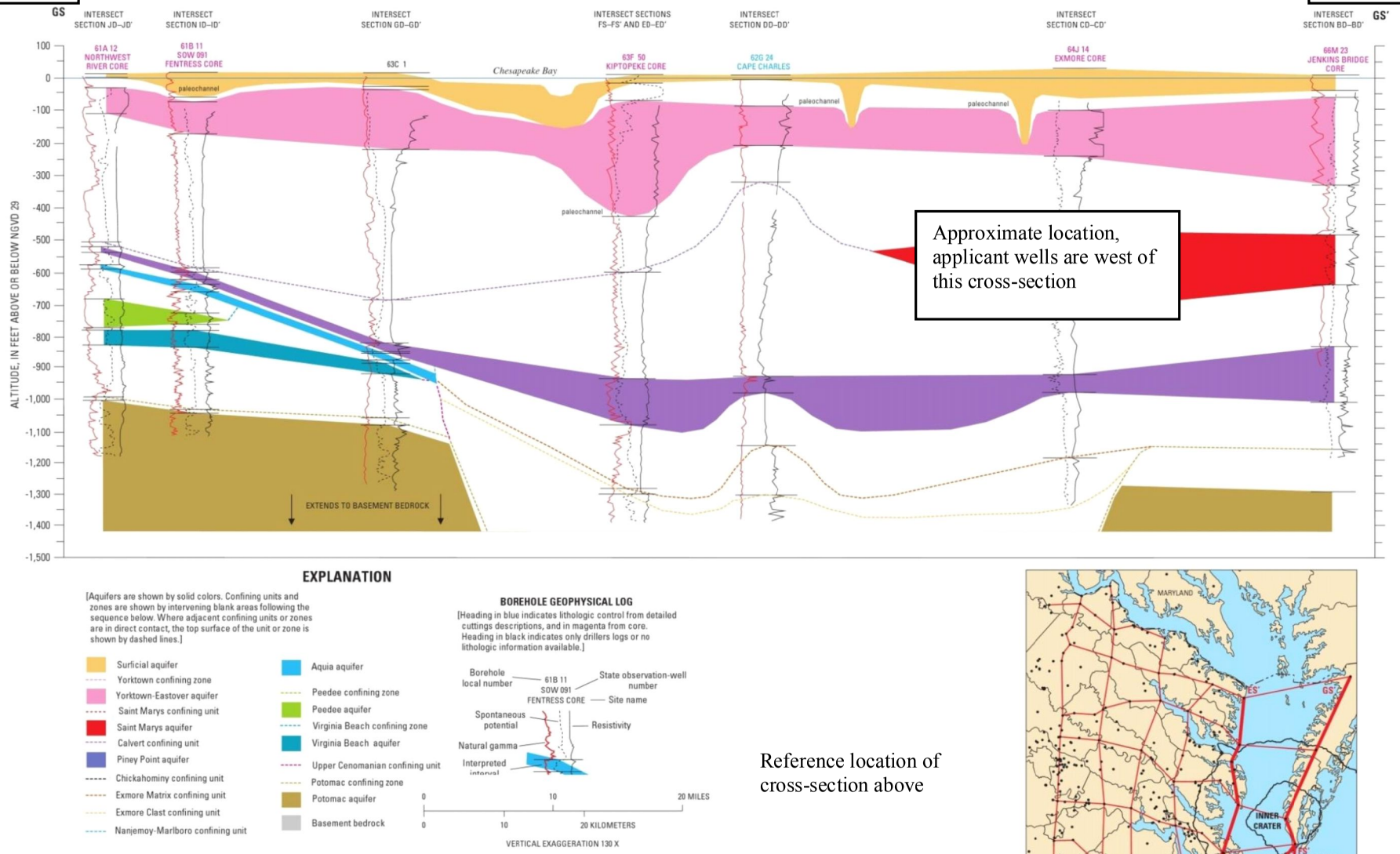
SOUTH

NORTH



Reference location of cross-section above

Coastal Plain (2006) Cross-Sections GS-GS' from USGS Professional Paper 1731.